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FOOTBALL:

The Calcut Nationals has long since become a memory — but its accounts are still a burning topic, and it now turns out to be a big swindle (p 6) No less a mess is the age violation at the Junior Nationals (p 26) A report and pics of Bombay's Harwood League (p 33)

TABLE TENNIS:

TTFI president Ranga Ramanujam failed to make it to Indore, so the India team for the Afro-Asian Championships was not announced This means the players have an agonising wait ahead of them (p 7)

ATHLETICS:

Sriram Singh raised hopes of winning a medal at Montreal Two experts, V A Thampi and Jal Pardiwala differ in their opinions on why he failed (p 8-9) V Hubert Dhanaraj reports on the Olympiad for the disabled (p 18).

CRICKET:

Tony Greig is determined that England find a genuine pace bowler soon and has set about looking for and grooming one (p 13)

TENNIS:

Jimmy Connors has struck a winning streak again and looks so much the better for it Chris Evert has completed 100 successive wins on clay courts (p 14-15).

COVER: Guy Druot of France broke an American monopoly in the Olympic 110 metres hurdles at Montreal Transparency Central Press Photos (UK) Ltd

KHALID ANSARI:

Taking the mountain to Mohammed

WE have a dream, a vision.

Of hundreds of thousands of our countrymen, young, middle-aged, old, in cities, towns, villages — running — some in shoes, most of them barefeet, on the road, in the fields, in the maidans, in the countryside, in every available open place, just for the love of it, as a form of healthy recreation (running for their lives) because of their love for participation in sport, because they believe in *mens sano corpore sano* (a healthy mind in a healthy body)

But need this dream remain just that? Should harsh reality, implicit in which are multifaceted complexities and inherent problems in a big country such as ours, constitute an absolute deterrent to all efforts in that direction?

We think not

If we are at all serious in our professions about making ours a sports-minded nation as a means to producing better citizens of the future, can't we make a start with the most elementary of all sports — athletics — for which no kit or gear, not even playgrounds are necessary?

If the masses do not flock to our grounds and stadia, let us, as in the parable concerning Mohammed and the mountain, take sport to the masses, to the roads, fields, countryside. Who knows, those watching may themselves feel motivated to participate and get others to do so. Hopefully, the movement could spread, snowball into a nation-wide leisure-time activity.

But enough of daydreaming and wishful thinking. We know for a fact there are enough sports lovers in our country who would like to help in their own small way. And insofar as every little bit helps, SPORTSWEEK would like to give a modest lead in Bombay. For a start.

Wanted. Sincere, involved workers with some time on their hands, springs in their feet, fire in their bellies. The only qualification required: dedication to the cause.

Any volunteers?

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The record-gate swindle

THE 32nd football nationals at Calicut is nine months gone and the 33rd tourney is round the corner and yet the Calicut organising committee has not set its accounts in order.

A member of the tournament vigilance committee has made a representation to the police and a preliminary enquiry has revealed gross misappropriation. Calicut had shattered all gate collection records. Even before the kick-off for the semi-final, the revenue had touched Rs. 21.83 lakhs, excluding the two international exhibition

various sections of the Defence of Internal Security of India Rules for conspiracy, misappropriation of funds and falsification of accounts. The audit wing is still busy scrutinising the records.

According to the first information report filed in the court, the budget, approved as early as October 1975 for the conduct of the nationals, was revised twice with revenue hitting the target each time. But on both occasions the expenses were enhanced.

At first, the revenue was Rs. 12

State Bank, season tickets of higher denominations were handled by the committee itself. Huge amounts were withdrawn from the accounts for various miscellaneous expenses like the purchase of presentation articles for visiting VIPs and for committee members too. Refreshment bills are not in order. Further a bill for Rs. 3 lakhs for police arrangements has not been cleared, though Rs. 25,000 towards the refreshment allowance for policemen has been accounted for.

Gross misappropriation is charged in the teak poles dealt with the



The Calicut football-lovers thronged the venue for the 32nd nationals, and swelled the coffers — but where has the money gone?

matches and the profit amounted to Rs. 16,800.

These figures are from an unaudited balance-sheet submitted by the president of the Kerala Football Association to the AIFF general body at Darjeeling in June 1976.

Now the Calicut police have filed a case against the five top committee members. They are T. O. Abdulla, KFA president, who was president of the tournament committee, K. T. Madhavan Nambiar, DFA president and chairman of the committee, Paul Fernandez, KFA joint secretary, and general convenor of the committee, K. P. Alavi, joint treasurer of the committee and C. P. Aboobacker, the secretary.

They have been charged under

lakhs and expenses Rs. 9 lakhs; profit Rs. 3 lakhs. The final revised budget put the revenue at Rs. 21,81,931 and expenses at Rs. 14,34,562. According to the accounts submitted to the AIFF general body the profit was Rs. 7 lakhs, of which only Rs. 2 lakhs remains in the bank.

This has prompted the AIFF to fix a ceiling on the expenses, according to the minutes of the Darjeeling meeting. Convention has it that the organising committee pays 80 per cent of the profit to the AIFF, but the latest decision has made it clear that expenses should not exceed Rs. 3 lakhs.

According to the FIR filed in the Calicut court, though the ticket sales were entrusted with the

Forests Department. It is pointed out that the poles were taken delivery of only after the nationals were over, and it has not been entered as having been sold in auction. Further, the FIR adds, the joint treasurer of the committee has financed a friend to start a timber business at Villupuram, near Madras, soon after the nationals.

An Ambassador car brought for the use of the committee for Rs. 16,000 was disposed off for a bare Rs. 6,000, without inviting tenders. Fans and sanitary fittings were not disposed off, but shared by the committee members, it is alleged.

The vigilance wing of the police is hunting for more details.

—SW CORRESPONDENT

That agonising wait again

It was widely believed that India's team for the Afro-Asian and Latin American Table Tennis Championships in Mexico next month would be announced at the end of the Central India at Indore. In fact, it was expected that T. D. Ranga Ramanujan, the president of the Table Tennis Federation of India, would give away the prizes on the final day and also announce the team.

This was welcome news, indeed — the prospect of the team being named well in time, I mean — and the arrival of T. Thiruvengadam, the national selector and coach, brightened hopes. However, there was no Ranga and, inevitably, no announcement. In the end, Thiru and a couple of sportswriters were asked to perform the final day chores.

The players will now have to resign themselves to a long and agonising wait once again and, as has become the tradition, the team will probably be made known just as it boards the plane. The TTFI will no doubt have sound excuses for the delay like lack of funds and the absence of "clearance" by the government.

Though successive chairmen of the All India Council of Sports have declared that they would like to clear all teams early and have even insisted that the federations should apply well in time, the TTFI has surprisingly secured the green signal only at the last minute. Something clearly is wrong somewhere.

However, in the present mood of careful long-term planning for the 1980 Moscow Games and the 1982 Asiad, it is only fair that table tennis enthusiasts should concern themselves with the Afro Asian to be held next month. And though the Afro-Asian is designed primarily as a "friendship" tournament, it can well be utilised as a part of our preparations for the more important World Championships next year.

On the face of it, the team selection shouldn't pose any problems. There are barely half a dozen players worthy of the country's colours anyway. One bird whispers that the team had been finalised before the Central India and that it would consist of four men and a junior.

According to another source, there is some uncertainty about the Afro-Asian in view of recent events in China, the principal sponsors. However, since the TTFI seldom takes the players or the public and the press into confidence in these

matters, only those gifted with divine powers will be able to read through its stoic silence.

One can safely assume that at least four men will be chosen since the federation invariably accords top priority to a men's team whatever the women's libbers might say. Two men, Niraj Bajaj and Manjit Dua, walk into the team. After a below-par showing in the Western India, Bajaj was back at his best at Indore where he beat everybody out of sight.



Indu Puri (left), Shailaja Salokhe and Nandini Kulkarni . . . could form the women's team. Right: V. Chandrasekhar . . . third berth in the men's team?

Dua, who didn't take part because he was ostensibly preparing for his exams, was also handed out the same treatment when the two clashed in the Khar Gymkhana final. Nevertheless, Dua, by his triumphs in the Western India and the Delhi "Times" Open, has clearly justified his position as No. 2.

The third berth ought to go to Tamil Nadu's V. Chandrasekhar. In the light of past experiences with other youngsters there are some who believe he should not be

rushed. However, Chandrasekhar has beaten practically every top player in the country in the last month — Vilas Menon, Bajaj and Jagannath in the Western India, Dua in the Inter-Institutional, and Sudhir Phadke, Kabad Jayant and Menon again in the Central India. Throughout he has displayed potential and consistency.

No doubt Chandrasekhar's play has some limitations. He relies overmuch on his forehand and is yet to acquire subtle variations of speed and spin. However, he is without doubt the best prospect we have had in the last few years and the Afro-Asian will be just the place to blood him. This will also be the ideal way to prepare him for the World Championship.

Menon, Phadke, Parikh and Jayant are the other claimants for a place. If the Central India is taken as the yardstick, the first three can be written off. Menon finished sixth, Phadke seventh, while Parikh was eliminated in the first stage.

Jayant, on the other hand, has finished third in both the zonal championships so far. The big question about him is whether the federation will be prepared to forgive him his past "sins".

Menon with his somewhat unorthodox play has performed reasonably well at the international. The trouble with him is his casual approach and a lack of maturity. Phadke is the only Indian to have reached the quarter final at the last Asian. As a defensive player, he will certainly bring some variety into the team. However, his current form has been abysmal though it must be said that he has been handicapped by his inability (?) to procure an anti-topspin surface.

Here's a real problem for the selectors. They can solve it the easy way by choosing a five-member team and thus including Menon and Phadke or Parikh who hasn't been faring as badly as the results might suggest. Or else they can pick a four-member team with Menon as the fourth player and give the girls, too, a chance.

A very real problem in sending a women's team is that national champion Indu Puri's health is a constant source of concern. Still, with the World Championships not far away, our girls too must get a look in. If Miss Puri is not fit, I would prefer Kalavathi Seetharam, Nandini Kulkarni, Kashmira Patel and Anita Sardesai, in that order, to accompany Shailaja Salokhe.

—TOP-SPINNER

A RACE RE-RUN

THE strategy for middle distance racing, the 800 metres, in particular, is far more complex than in any other race on the track. For all intents and purposes, the 800 metres today can be considered as an "endurance sprint" like the 400.

It is a fascinating race "short enough to require speed and long enough to require endurance." It is only by a proper rationalisation of energy in a well-paced race in its different segments can a runner win.

Sriram Singh did not accurately judge his pace at Montreal. In the opinion of the West German coach Paul Schmidt, a middle-distance

The 800 metres at Montreal raised hopes of an Indian medal victory — but alas, that was not to be. Sriram Singh finished seventh. Two experts tell us why . . .

V. A. THAMPI says it was poor judgement, while **JAL PARDIVALA** thinks it was lack of international experience that cost Sriram the race

run about three or four seconds slower in the first lap — at about 52 secs — so as to conserve his energy for the next 400.

The winner, the Cuban Alberto Juantorena covered the first lap in 50.85 secs — approximately seven seconds slower than his best 400 time, as it ought to be, while the Indian committed the fault of running fast throughout, if not faster

had given up his all and became bankrupt in stamina, strength and speed which forced him to slacken off and by the early stage of the second lap itself the Cuban, American and the Belgian flew past him in that order placing Sriram fourth, only to be pulled down by his pursuers easily one by one till he placed last but one

Juantorena dominated the first and semi-final heats with timings of 1:47.2 and 1:45.9 secs respectively running no faster than necessary to win, while Sriram running faster than ever before, placed second in the first heat (1:45.9) and fourth in the semi-finals after a more strenuous passage, in 1:46.4 secs. If he had missed it, he would not have qualified for the final

In the final, Juantorena finished the first lap in 50.8 secs (averaging 25.4 secs per 200m) and the second lap in 52.7 secs (26.3 + 26.4 secs) together making 1:43.5

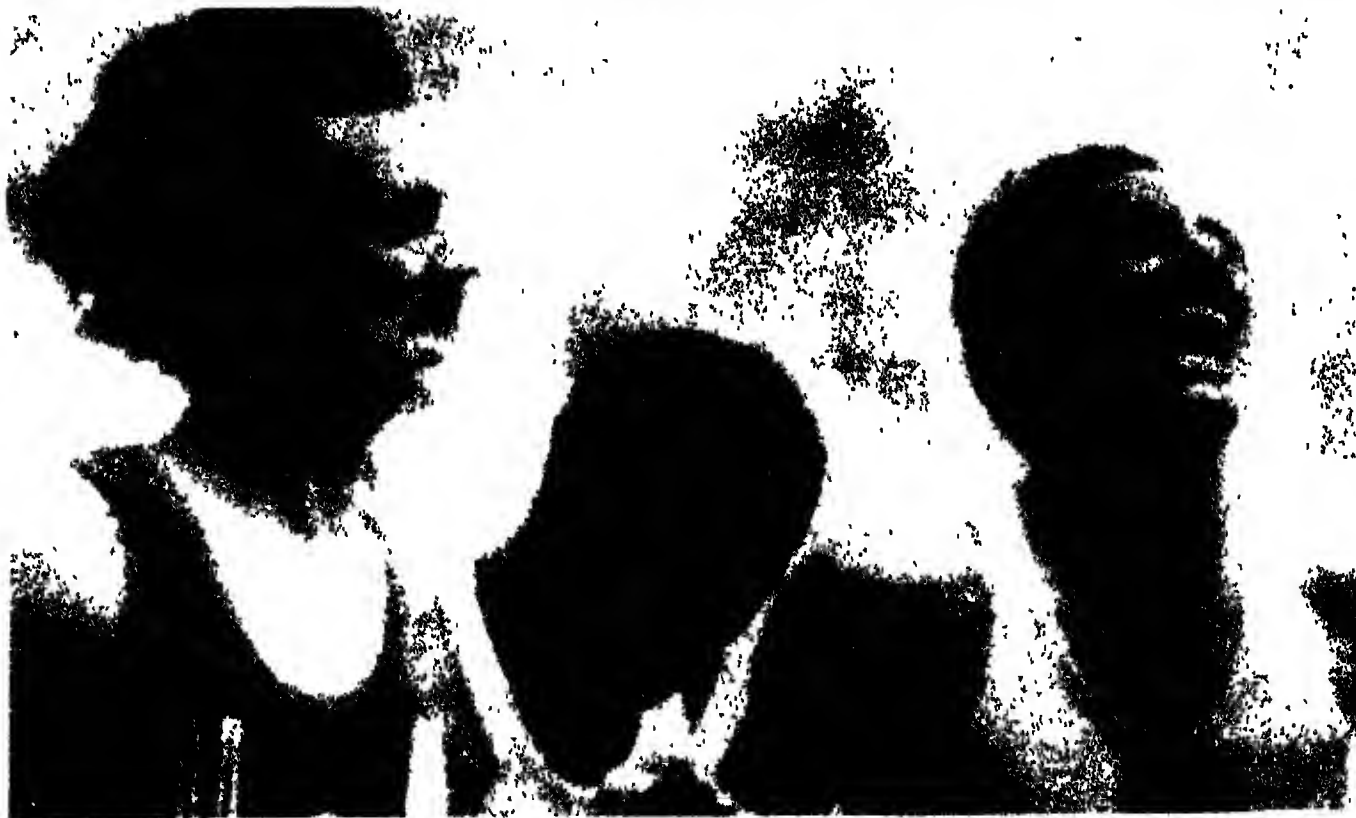
V. A. THAMPI: POOR TACTICS

runner should be capable of an exact and intelligent evaluation of himself, so as to form a base, to stick to his chosen speed in the first lap

Sriram had no such tactical pre-plan, nor had he been tutored in that respect. In the opinion of international experts an athlete of his standard of 47-48 secs for the 400 metres should have chosen to

by a fraction of a second than Juantorena in the first lap without any forethought that the remaining distance would require more endurance and sustaining speed to the finish

Starting off too ambitiously in the first lap and underestimating the real strength and energy of the Cuban and leading just for a moment in the second lap, Sriram



Richard Wohlhunter of the US wins the first heat, ahead of Sriram Singh and Leandro Civil of Cuba



Sriram Singh about to go into the lead at the 400-metre mark — all too briefly he led then dropped back steadily to finish seventh

secs for a new World and Olympic Record—presumably he might have made a 100m dash to the tape in 10.8 secs.

Sriram who had a lead for just a moment in the second lap might have covered the first lap in about 50.4 secs. The break-up of his timing, as in the case of the Cuban, are not known. His second lap had to be 55.4 secs to make up 1:45.8 for the entire race. There was a wide gap between the third and fourth, 1.2 secs in time and about 35 yards in distance.

If Sriram had finished the first lap in 51.5 secs by a slower pace, the reserve energy so obtained could have been utilised to run the second lap in about 53.5 secs to make the total to 1:45.0 secs and that would have placed him fourth.



Alberto Juantorena
the winner

Jal Pardiwala : Experience paid

TWO main factors should be considered. Basically, Sriram Singh is a front runner, and I would say for an athlete of such a type it is rather difficult to change his mode of running or tactics at the last moment. Secondly, and most important, he had no type of international competition prior to his participation at Montreal. This was a great drawback.

At Montreal, he ran in a heat where the first six broke 1:47 seconds. This was due to a fast opening lap of 51.4 seconds. For the semi-finals, the first two and four best losers (fastest) were to be selected. He had no choice but to go all out.

He came second and improved

his national record from 1:47 to 1:45.9 seconds. In fact he was lucky, as L. Civil of Cuba brushed against him in a desperate lunge bringing in the same time. In fact, the four fastest losers were from the heat of Sriram Singh. The seventh man of his heat returned a time of 1:46.81 seconds which was better than the time of the first man of the remaining five heats.

On the next day was the semi-final. Here too, Sriram was caught in the finest batch of the two lap runners which you would see from the following. Sriram came fourth in his semi-final with a time of 1:46.42 seconds. He beat the fifth man (James Robinson of USA) by a hair's breadth whose time was 1:46.43 seconds. You will be sur-

prised to know that Robinson's time was better than the time of the first man of the heat which was 1:46.72 seconds by Richard Wohlhunter of USA.

These two strong races of two successive days took the toll from Sriram Singh, who had no experience of running such races on consecutive days and in such prolific times.

In the final, Juantorena, who was underestimated by Wohlhunter, had his day. The Cuban did not falter anywhere. On account of his previous competitions he judged his race well; ran the first lap in 50.85 seconds, and went on to win in the new Olympic and World Record time of 1:43.50 seconds.

At the finish of the first lap Sriram was in front just for a brief spell. I do not think that he covered the first lap in 50.4 seconds. It may have been 50.90 or 50.95. One point is that he ought not to have gone out too fast in the backstretch of the second round to lead for a while.

But, then as stated above, he always had been a front-runner. Further, again as stated above, he had no international competition prior to the Olympics.

On the other hand, the Cuban had series of notable 400/800 wins during his stay in Europe in June, which developed in him recuperative powers to take nine races (including the relays) in Montreal. Sriram did not have this sort of experience and competition.

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THE ART OF CRICKET

I WOULD counsel every boy who is interested in batting to play with a ball at every opportunity. Whether it be a golf ball, tennis ball, baseball or any other kind doesn't matter. It will help train the eye and co-ordinate brain, eye and muscle.

When it comes to detailed execution of the art, batting at the nets is the first method of improving one's efficiency. So many things can be tried out there.

You can experiment with your grip, your stance, stroke execution, etc., until satisfied you have the right method.

Throughout his career a batsman, even though he may have achieved fame, must continue assiduously at net practice.

That notable left handed opening batsman Warren Bardsley once made a century in a Test match and, so we are told, went straight out to the practice nets because he was dissatisfied with his form.

How different from another Test match example I saw. A player who was to bat that day and upon whom a heavy responsibility lay, was observed in civilian clothes on the balcony outside the players' dressing room five minutes before play was due to commence. He was in full view of the public and the opposing team. He failed miserably—a just reward.

Confidence in one's own ability is admirable in moderation but it does not absolve anyone from the need for practice.

The early formative years of a boy's career can have a tremendous bearing on his technique.

I learnt my cricket on hard wickets and undoubtedly this was responsible for the development of certain shots in preference to others. But it does not in any sense alter the cardinal virtues, such as "watching the ball", which are common under all conditions.

Take full advantage of your natural assets, improve them and adapt them to changing circumstances.

It is a good idea to try to obtain net practice against the type of bowler who worries you most, or against whom you expect to play in forthcoming matches.

An outstanding example of this need was the 1956 tour of England by Australia. To the most casual observer it was obvious the Australians were having more trouble with off-spinner Laker than any other type. It was a clear case where net practice against off-spinners was a cardinal need.

Whilst it is true that some play

Batting

ers are born, or achieve greatness without coaching, and equally true that some players are overcoached, I still believe in the desirability of sound coaching.

The trouble is that coaches vary just the same as players. They should always build upon and improve existing talent, and seldom is it wise to completely alter anybody's style.

One's physical movements are decided by muscular and bodily structure. It would be useless trying to coach the dynamic Learie Constantine to emulate the slow, easy rhythm and grace of Frank Woolley. But it would be correct for a coach to make sure each man played his drives with the bat reasonably close to the front leg.

by SIR DONALD
BRADMAN

The value of coaching is to pick out departures from fundamental soundness and build on nature, not to try to mould every player into precisely the same type.

The coach who insists on every batsman having complete control with his top hand is wrong, he cause it does not suit everyone. I'm sure Denis Compton's genius would never have blossomed if he had been compelled, as a youth, to allow his top hand to become the master.

Conversely Sir Leonard Hutton was a marvellous example of top-hand control. It suited him.

The coach must have sufficient intelligence not to be dogmatic but to discern what method is best for his pupil.

For any player the top hand is of supreme importance when playing a forward defensive shot. But when it comes to a full-blooded pull, the story is very different. There cannot be sufficient power without the bottom hand, nor adequate control without the other. Co-ordination is the thing.

I think it much more important that coaches should devote their time to things where there should be basic soundness irrespective of grip, stroke production, etc.—for instance, footwork, which I think is one of the keys to great batsmanship. Good footwork is a characteristic common to all great batsmen, irrespective of physique or other peculiarities.

Get into the correct position for your shots and it is marvellous how much easier they become.

Footwork should, generally speaking, be constantly taking the batsman towards the off.

Young batsmen have a natural tendency to draw away from a ball directed at the body. This impulse must be overcome. Don't let that rear foot retreat to the leg side. Almost invariably one should move towards the off, whether it is forward with your left foot or back with your right.

By going back with your right foot I mean back and towards the stumps—not back towards the umpire.

I am a great believer in back play providing the player will look upon it as an offensive as well as a defensive medium.

History shows that the outstanding batsmen were mostly strong off the back foot. They could drive, of course, but their initial protective movement was back rather than forward.

Ranji expressed himself very much in favour of back play, and went on to say, "No forward stroke is absolutely safe unless the ball is smothered." By that I assume he meant it had to be played as a genuine half-volley.

No batsman can fail to get into difficulties if he persists in driving well away from his body, in driving against a turning leg-break and so on.

To some extent footwork is based on judgment, and straight away we revert to the need for practice to acquire judgment. You see how inextricably all these things are interwoven.

Eventually a batsman should reach the stage where his judgment of whether to play forward or back becomes instinctive rather than deliberate.

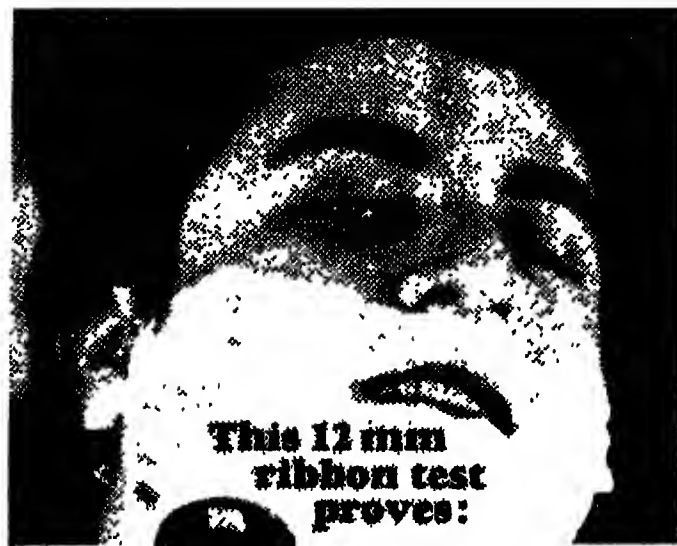
The sight of the ball seems to trigger off a corresponding reaction so that movement becomes almost a habit.

Despite the essential feet and body movements, I don't like to see a player allowing his head to bob about. Keep the head and eyes as still as you can, even though the arms and the body are moving.

I am a firm believer in attacking batsmanship. It is a batsman's duty to take the initiative and play shots.

His training in the cultivation of a sound defence should not mean that he becomes defence-minded.

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(to be continued)



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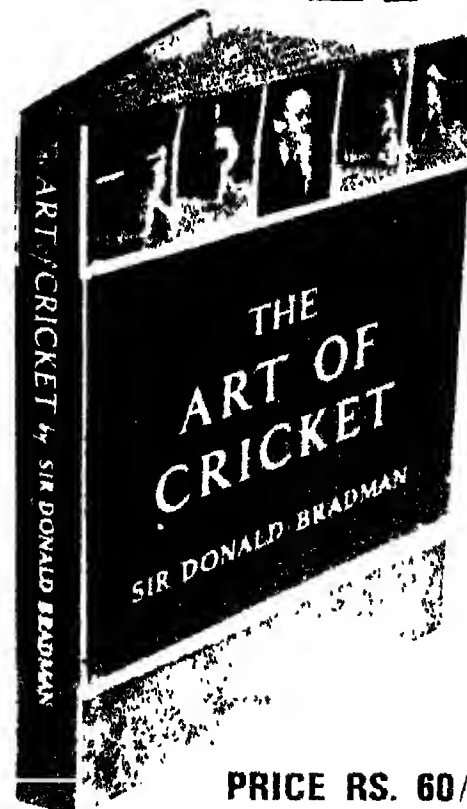
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Search for pace—Greig style

by CHRISTOPHER HILTON

THE low, running clouds were coming in off the sea bringing the rain which spat in your face

Summer seemed suddenly far away, lost in the winds of September and no more than a memory.

It was hardly the day to find hope for English cricket, and yet . . . a hundred and more young men had come to Hove to grasp one slender chance by bowling as fast as they knew how

The hunt was on, launched by England captain Tony Greig. Weeks before, he had said, during a television interview, that Sussex would give trials to any promising fast bowler

The response? Well, I gather that Mr Greig was very unpopular with the postman who had to deliver the mail

And on the appointed day, the young men came; they came from Manchester and Carlisle, from Little Snoring and Ronkswood, and some of them were only 13.

Find a fast bowler. It is almost an emotional subject, after England's batterings from Lillee and Fromson, Holding, Daniel and Roberts

The rain drove the hopefuls to the indoor net where there was not quite enough room for their run-ups. John Snow sympathised, but added that it was a good way to find out if any of them were "bloody minded enough" to be fast bowlers

Later, after the numbers had been pruned, they went outdoors to a single net where Greig stood, hands deep in his pockets, evaluating each in turn

In the end, three were selected and they bowled at Greig himself. They were impressive enough to be going back at the start of next season for two weeks' training with the Sussex players.

And a further eight, younger will be going back, too, for trials. Their counties will be informed that they have potential

Greig was happy enough with the whole day, happy that so many had come so far, happy that some of them were good

And the three who bowled at him? Russell Bolton, 20, from Rusholme, Manchester; Christopher Fletcher, 18, from London; Richard Carruthers, 17, from Bideford

FOOTNOTE: Carruthers, so the experts at Hove decided, has something very reminiscent of Jeff Thomson about him. That's a little bit of hope as we face the winter, is it not?



Connors—win first, talk later



Jimmy Connors . . . back to the winning road

SUPERSTAR Jimmy Connors has got his show on the road again after winning the United States' Open tennis title.

Victory in a slam-bang thriller against Bjorn Borg under the blazing floodlights of Forest Hills has been a sort of reincarnation for the man who dominated world tennis two years ago.

Jimmy's fat year of 1974, when he won the Australian, Wimbledon and the United States championships, was followed by a 1975 in which everything seemed to disintegrate. He was runner-up for all three titles, lost the love of Chris Evert — to whom he had been engaged — and lost a lot of public support by boorish behaviour on court.

But at Forest Hills, as he held a solid gold tennis ball in his hand and sat unwinding, mentally and physically, from one of the most

exhausting matches of his life, Connors declared: "I wanted to win Forest Hills again because I wanted to make everybody forget 1975."

The relief showed. For, all through the 12 days of Forest Hills, 24-year-old Connors had been haunted by the memory of the way he had failed 12 months earlier.

He said: "It brashes my ego to be constantly reminded by questions which start, 'After losing last year, etc., etc., etc.'"

"Any player in the world would have loved to have got to the finals of three of the biggest championships in the world.

"I also won nine out of 18 other tournaments, but for me it was a stick to be beaten with. Nobody ever mentioned 1974 any more, and that hurt.

"If the sun rose and set only over Forest Hills and Wimbledon

there are a lot of guys playing this game who would not be very tanned."

Connors, who bounced brashly on to the big tennis scene five years ago and whirled to fame and a fortune in what seemed like an instant, is now more wary of the world as a result of the last two years.

He enjoys the trappings of the millionaire.

Former Miss World, Marjorie Wallace, has been his constant companion since a much publicised interlude with actress Susan George — which ended his long-running romance with Chris Evert — and he employs two bodyguards, chests bulging menacingly under T-shirts bearing the legend "The James Gang."

But he has learned to win first and talk afterwards. It is getting him back to being an acceptable champion, even if he still has a long way to go to be also popular.

Yet it was noticeable, while he was thumping his way to victory against Borg that the tough New York crowd swung his way.

Borg's sharp rise in the past two years had forced even Connors to admit that the Swede had taken over as world No. 1.

Now they are on course for a showdown in the Commercial Union Masters at Houston in December and Connors says: "If we both reach the final that will decide just who is No. 1."

You could see in his eye that Jimmy Connors much prefers being J.C. Superstar to being No. 2 to anybody.

—IAN BARNES

Borg's haul from Mexico

WIMBLEDON champion Bjorn Borg won the Marlboro round robin tennis tournament in Mexico City and took home £23,000 for a week's play.

Borg, who won the first tournament in Guadalajara last week, scraped a 7-6, 8-6, 6-1 win against Ilie Nastase of Romania in the decisive final match.

The Romanian finished in second

place, just as he did in the first competition, and Argentina's Guillermo Vilas beat Rod Laver 2-6, 8-4, 7-6 to finish third again out of four players.

In the second set, Borg's game went to pieces, and it looked for a while as if Nastase would avenge his defeats in the Wimbledon finals and the semi-finals at Forest Hills.

But after losing all his service games in the second set, Borg crushed Nastase in the final set.

In the other match, Vilas got off to a shaky start owing to his inability to judge the extra speed of the ball in the rarified mountain atmosphere. But his stamina was too much for 38-year-old Laver.



Chris Evert . . . a 100 successive wins on clay courts

A century of wins

IF Chris Evert didn't exist, the Americans would, by now, have invented her.

She is essentially twentieth century . . . a perfectly balanced blend of girl next door and untouchable superstar.

She is the most successful tennis player of the present generation.

Count it in titles won or money earned from the game, she is way ahead. And she is still only 21.

The last time Chris lost on clay was back in July, 1973—to Evonne Cawley—and she then went on to reach 100 wins when she beat Mima Jausovec on the way to a second US Open Championship victory.

It will be a century littered with major championship wins.

She has been exceptional since she burst on the big scene at Forest Hills in 1971, three months and ten days short of her 17th birthday — a skinny kid with an awkward-looking double-fisted backhand — and reached the semi-finals of the US Open.

She played for more than a year as an amateur and declined more than 50,000 dollars in prize money before turning professional on her 18th birthday.

Since then she has won a million-plus and collected the Italian, French and Wimbledon titles twice and the US title once.

Yet she remains unspoiled. She still regards the family home in Florida, as her base for travelling the world.

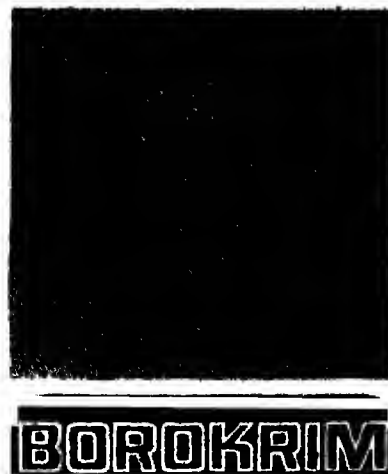
She handles hard-nosed New York radio and television reporters with the calm authority of a Henry Kissinger and can still, within 30 seconds, step away from them to greet an old friend with a genuinely affectionate kiss on the cheek.

She is courted by film stars and celebrities. But she remains friendly and helpful to girls who walk in awe on to the same court when they are unlucky enough to be drawn against her in early rounds.

The queen of clay courts says: "I have been playing on them since I was six years old. I love it. I love sliding around and hitting my shots. It's my surface."

But she has won two championships on Wimbledon's grass and three times she has carried off the Virginia Slims championship — which is played on fast carpet courts.

And if they ever get round to playing tennis on water, Chris Evert will probably walk off with the title.



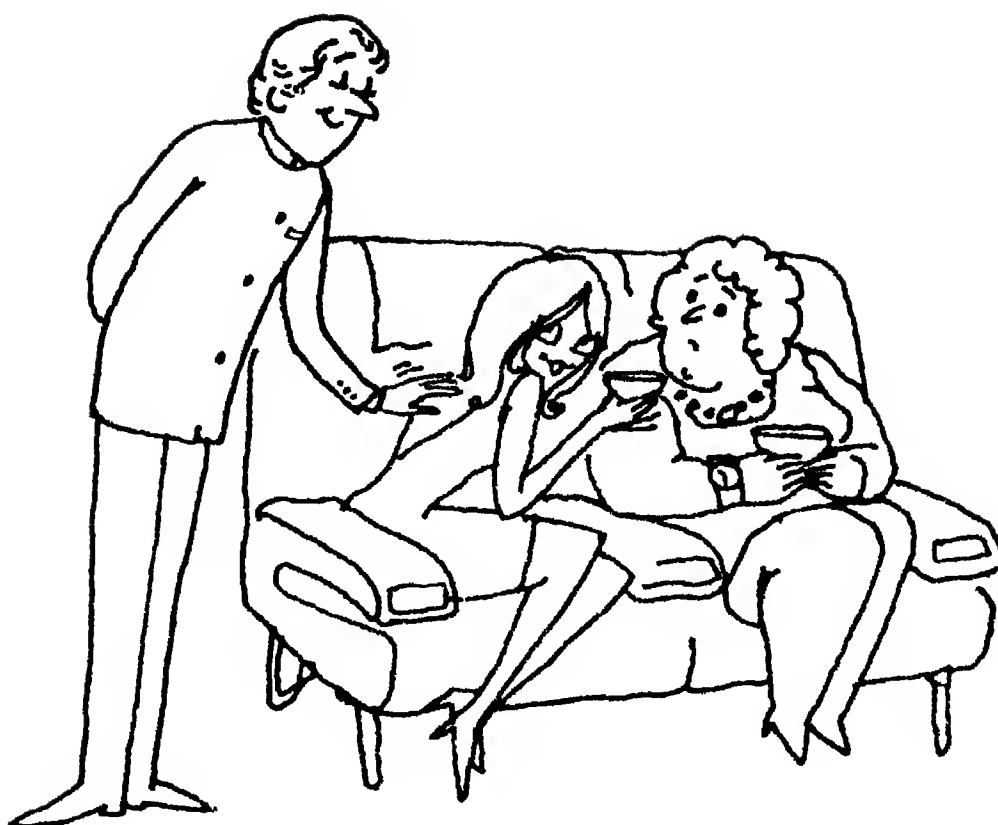
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How else can he be the hero of a hundred pleasant flights, the man who makes every flying hour a lovely experience?

And all because there is someone very special on board.

You, dear passenger.

AIR-INDIA



Navy duo tops

THOUGH hosts Indian Navy were nowhere near leaders Southern Command, their duo of Mohinder Singh Rana and C P Kunju made quite a splash in the Services Aquatics Championships.

Rana, who won the three free style events, 200, 400 and 1,500 metres, was adjudged the outstanding swimmer of the five-day competition. He showed his prowess as the country's outstanding long distance freestyler in winning all three events with comfort, and came very near improving upon his own national marks.

Kunju won the glamour event, 100 metres freestyle, in 59.8 secs to be adjudged the fastest swimmer of the meet. Both Kunju, who anchored the team, and Rana were concerned in a spirited attempt to oust Southern Command in the 4 x 100 metres freestyle relay but failed narrowly.

However, this fine effort put them the second berth not only in the event but also in the team honours when they ousted Central Com-

mand to third place by a narrow margin of three points.

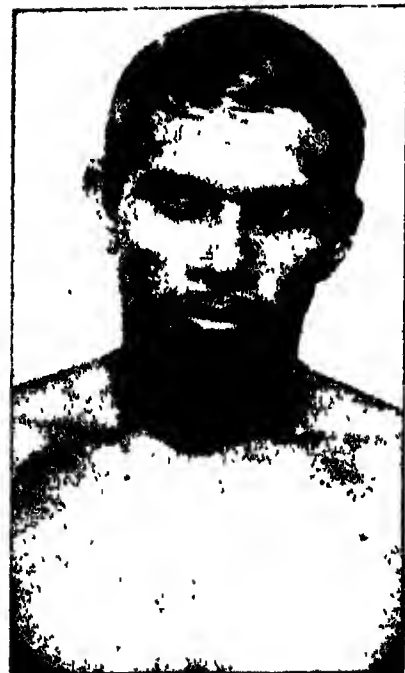
The keenest contest of the meet was witnessed in the 100 metres breaststroke event when Kushi Lal (Southern Command) was strongly challenged by Central Command's Joga Singh and Mahan Singh. Kushi Lal claimed a close victory with a fine final burst to clock 1 min 18.5 secs.

Another close contest was witnessed in the 100 metres butterfly stroke on the penultimate day when Eastern Command's Rajeshwar Lal claimed a narrow victory over his teammate Mohinder Singh and Southern Command's Prabhakaran. Rajeshwar Lal returned a timing of 1 min 10.2 secs.

Southern Command won the team title with a commanding margin of 73 points over Navy (85). Central Command (82) finished third.

The water polo title was won by Central Command who defeated Navy by five goals to two.

—SW Correspondent



C. P. Kunju

Spotlight on youth

A PLUCKY teenager, 15-year old Nitin Puri, India's junior No. 3 in table tennis, was sent to Japan by the UP Government last May to pick up the finer points of the game. The Japanese experience has done him good as is evident from his winning the juniors' title in the Western India Championships in July and the "Times of India" Table Tennis tournament in the capital.

Nitin took to the game at the age of nine and in six years he has reached the top rung of junior ladder. He has also won many a laurel for his State and his hometown, Dehra Dun.

He made his debut in the national field in 1972. He acquitted himself creditably and was placed UP junior No. 3. A year later, he became the UP junior champion.

In the Junior National Championships at Jaipur in 1975, Nitin reached the final but was beaten by R. Hari of Tamil Nadu, in a thrilling five-setter. Though he played impressively, it was experience that prevailed over pluck.

He has a problem. In Dehra Dun he has no one of his calibre who could throw a challenge to him. This hurdle was overcome by the engineering skill of his father who has



Nitin Puri

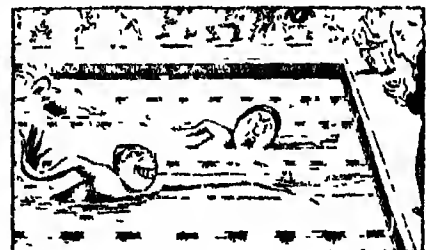
produced a machine which substitutes a skilled player. This machine can throw 20 to 80 balls per minute from the other side of the table at different speeds, spin and angle. This has its advantages but the vital factor of a human mind scheming behind the play is missing.

In Japan, the coaches brushed up Nitin's body position, serve and returns. His main coach in Japan was Furukawa, who is Japan's No. 5.

Though Nitin intends to be an engineer, his eyes are also fixed on the ultimate that any young player aspires for — the national senior title.

—SUDHIR RAINA

SPORTING SAM by Reg Wootton



An extraordinary Olympiad

A SHORT distance from the world famous Niagara Falls in Toronto, known to many tourists as the "City of Trees" here, the people are invited to enjoy nature, as evident from the signs in the parks which say, "Please walk on the grass"

Lying within the metropolitan area is the Borough of Etobicoke, a beautiful spot dominated by the 265 acre Centennial Park which was the site for the 1976 Olympics for the Physically Disabled. Some 38 nations entered their teams and over 1,400 athletes participated

Incredible as it may seem, these competitions revealed the results of long, intensive training and the spectators witnessed national teams fighting tooth and nail for laurels — all in the Olympic spirit and tradition. After all, "it is the ability, not the disability that counts" as Sir Ludwig Guttman the founder of this Olympics put it

The general goal in planning was to provide the best. The facilities made available through the general assistance of the Borough include an outdoor stadium with a seating capacity for 10,000 Olympic fans. The well planned track and field facilities meet the International Amateur Athletic Federation Standards

A large gymnasium housing two beautiful basketball courts can accommodate 2,500 spectators. A mezzanine gymnastic gallery measures about 8 metres by 35 metres. A modern sports complex with two Olympic-standard swimming pools fitted with underwater observation stations and adequate spectator space is a new construction

by V. HUBERT
DHANARAJ

There are but a few of the physical features.

As in the regular Olympic Games, here too there was funfare and trumpets. But, this Olympics is unique because all competitors were handicapped persons — about 1,000 paraplegics (wheelchair), 200 amputees and 200 blind. Over 15,000 visitors occupied the spectators' seats at the various events from August 4 to August 11, 1976 just after the Montreal Olympics

The paraplegic, blind and amputee athletes competed (in their own divisions) in swimming, track and field, lawn bowling and pentathlon. Additional events for paraplegics were basketball, snooker, fencing, slalom (downhill sking race), table tennis, rifle shooting, archery and weightlifting. Other events for the amputees were table tennis, slalom and soccer ball kicking for distance

The events for the blind were limited to the four given earlier. The athletes had their escorts and coaches as in any international sports. Qualified competition officials conducted the events, applying the rules uniformly to give a fair chance to every contestant

The disabled were not brought together out of compassion, but the idea here was to provide the opportunity to test their skill and strength in a festival of sports. At the same time, the ideal of international understanding is never sacrificed. The Olympics is not a

stray great event, but rather a climax of what develops earlier

In many countries there are now specially constituted sports associations promoting a variety of recreation programmes. Regional and national sports competitions are held on a regular basis. Governments and private agencies sponsor these activities and offer general support and financial assistance

The politics that simmered in the Montreal Olympics spread to Toronto as well, and only 38 of the original 46 countries stayed on. The teams that pulled out did so to protest the South African policy of apartheid and the presence of that country's team in the Games. Despite this happening, the events were conducted in a cordial atmosphere, and the results revealed clearly, more than ever before, the potential of the disabled athletes.

Several Olympic records were shattered. Of the many outstanding performances, two of them deserve emulation and special mention here. The eighteen-year-old Arnold Boldt of Saskatoon (Canada) who lost one leg below the knee in an accident when he was three years old, was named the best performer at the Olympics for the physically disabled

Competing in the amputee division, he cleared 1.86 metres in the high jump event. The jump compared favourably with leaps by able-bodied athletes. The second is the excellence of Maryke Ruiter of the Netherlands who set two world records in swimming for wheelchair athletes. Ruiter's performance was the outcome of a love for swimming and dedicated training

In the over-all medal standings, the US was first with 145 medals (62 gold, 38 silver, 45 bronze) and Britain finished second with 120 medals. Some of the other strong contenders were West Germany, Netherlands, Canada, Sweden and Israel.

The credit of introducing the Olympics for the disabled goes to Sir Ludwig Guttman who established the well known spinal injuries hospital unit at Stoke Mandeville in Great Britain during the second world war. The idea of a second world war. The idea of an Olympiad for the handicapped sportsmen was conceived when a team of archers from Holland were invited to England for a competition in 1950. Since then, the world's first permanent sports complex for the disabled in Stoke Mandeville became the venue of several

OLYMPIC ODDITIES



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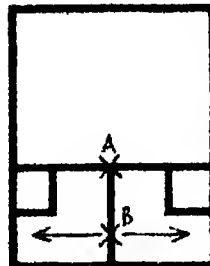
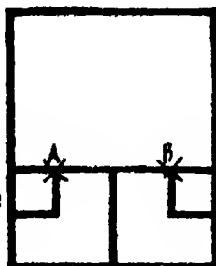
THE MAIN EVENT
IN THE ANCIENT
OLYMPICS WAS THE
DISCUS THROW.
THE COMPETITOR
WHO THREW IT
FARTHEST WAS
CONSIDERED THE
BEST ATHLETE IN
THE LAND.

29

Learn to play squash — 19 Volley — in pairs

Words by
Tony Swift
Techniques by Bryan Patterson

PLAYERS A AND B STAND ON THE CORNER OF THE SERVICE BOX AND THE SHORT LINE AS SHOWN. CONTINUE THE VOLLEY TO YOUR PARTNER SO THAT A ONLY PLAYS FOREHAND VOLLEYS WHILE B MAY ONLY PLAY BACKHAND VOLLEYS.



PLAYER B FEEDS HIGH FLOATING BALLS FOR A TO PUT OFF ON THE VOLLEY. A MUST REMAIN ON THE SHORT LINE AND SHOULD TRY TO VOLLEY AS MANY BALLS AS POSSIBLE; A-CONCENTRATING ON HITTING THE BALL TO A GOOD LENGTH EITHER FORWARD OR ACROSS THE COURT.

DRAWINGS BY B. CHRISTENSON

ADAPTED BY MULTISQUASH LTD

ON the individual volley practices you may have found that as you start to hit the ball harder and longer, your forearm muscles become tired.

This is good, because it means you are hitting the ball correctly. If you can overcome this tiredness in practice you will be able to control the ball much better — and

for longer — in a match.

When muscles tire, control is lost. But in practice it is likely that you are hitting the ball twice as often as in a game.

Today we look at two volley practices for left-hand players on court. Co-operation is needed.

Count how many shots you can play with your partner before the

rally breaks down. If you can reach over 100 your ball control is good.

The second diagram illustrates a more difficult practice for better players. As the practice proceeds, B should make the volleys more difficult, playing balls harder and wider to stretch A. After a few minutes of this practice the roles should be reversed.

from p 18

international competitions, but these events were unrelated to the Olympics

A breakthrough came in 1960 when a liaison was established during the Rome Olympics and now every fourth year the Games are held in the same country as the regular Olympics. Subsequently, in 1964 the Games were held in Tokyo.

However, in 1968 Tel Aviv hosted the Games as the high altitude of Mexico was found unsuitable for the disabled athletes. The 1972 Olympiad in Heidelberg saw the real proliferation and the growing enthusiasm for this unique international event.

Scientific coaching and training have also found their way into the sports for the disabled, and setting records is becoming a key issue. New events are constantly considered for inclusion. It is felt that in long distance racing (a wheel chair event) a six-minute mile will be achieved by many athletes in the future. This has now the same excitement like the four-minute mile in normal athletics some years ago.

One should appreciate the fact that physical disability and sickness are not synonymous and sports for the disabled is something more than rehabilitation therapy. This concept was given shape and form by Ludwig Guttman for which service he was knighted in 1966, and his genius continues to inspire the people around the world.

The Olympics for the Physically Disabled is an extraordinary sports event. As an observer put it, seeing is believing!

Punam wins cross - country

FIGHTING fit and displaying tremendous guts and determination, athletes from the Services let no one steal their thunder in the National Cross Country held at Sagar, near Bangalore, recently by filling the first eight places in the men's 14.5 kilometres race.

In a magnificent tussle with Harjit Singh, Punam Singh, keeping some 'reserve energy' for the final burst, forged ahead 15 metres out to emerge winner. Inder Singh was third. Punam's timing was 48 mins 7 secs.

National champion and winner of the recent cross country race at Hoskote, 'barefoot Contessa' B. H. Shashikalamani of Shimoga and Karnataka clocked 10 mins 59.6 secs to romp home an easy winner in the women's 3 km race beating back the challenge of Railways Jalaja Naresh.

Two sturdy Punjab lads Prem Chand and Kuldeep Singh proved their class winning the boys under 18 (10 km) and under 17 (5 km) races while Tripura's Maya Deb won the girls 3 km. event beating two Karnataka girls in the process.

The course, covering the whole town took the athletes — nearly 200 of them — over stretches of concrete, grassy maidans, marshy lands and three small streams. Everything was excellently laid out with the organisers doing a splendid job.

The results

MEN: (14.5 kms). Punam Singh 1; Harjit Singh 2, Inder Singh 3



(All Services) Time 48 mins 7 secs

WOMEN (3 km). B. H. Shashikalamani (Karnataka) 1, Jalaja Naresh (Railways) 2, Uma Das (Railways) 3. Time 10 mins 59.6 secs

BOYS Under-18 (10 km.) Prem Chand (Punjab) 1; C. Rajavelu (Karnataka) 2, Jit Singh (Punjab) 3. Time 35 mins 66 secs

BOYS Under-17 (5 km.) Kuldeep Singh (Punjab) 1, Niranjan Basaka (Tripura) 2, Harminder Singh (Punjab) 3. Time 16 mins 36 secs

GIRLS (3 km.) Maya Deb (Tripura) 1, J. Sudha (Karnataka) 2, J. Chandrakala (Karnataka) 3. Time 11 mins 10.4 secs

IFAM CHAMPIONSHIPS Men: Services, Women: Railways. Boys (Under 19 and 17) Punjab Girls: Karnataka

--R. ARVINDAM



Sportraits

mini-portraits of maxi-stars...

KEITH FLETCHER's true ability has never been accurately reflected in his performances for England. For such a good player — an excellent driver — his disappointing results in Tests have baffled the connoisseurs, and a number of reasons, not least of which was temperament, were put forward.

Truthfully, it is probably a variety of reasons, not so much temperament as adjustment to the atmosphere of a Test match, adjustment to having one good bowler follow another in Test cricket, and most of all, perhaps, the breaks. Luck consistently deserts the man who needs it most. When luck turns, confidence is restored, and runs are so much easier to get.

The army of critics who have followed the Test circus have this to say of Fletcher's repeated failures. 'Fletcher doesn't have a sound enough temperament. He's too diffident.' But in real life Fletcher is more mature and confident than his public image gives him credit for.

'I'm not nervous,' he says, 'I'm no more nervous playing for England than I am playing for Essex. I'm not a nervous type. I get buttermilk, all players do. But once I get out there in the middle I'm all right.'

'Of course there's more pressure playing in Tests. You're in the spotlight and you've got all these people knocking you. Criticism is bound to have an effect on you. You've got to think about it.'

When Fletcher came to India with Tony Lewis' side, he played the trio of world class Indian spinners with greater confidence than anyone else. His colleagues in county cricket this came as no surprise, he has always been a good player against spin, and it is facet of cricket that gives him the most enjoyment.

He feels that it is a genuine contest of skill being pitted against skill, with all the virtues of the game at stake, whereas batting against the less talented seam bowler, whose principal aim is to keep the runs down, is a test of patience and temperament; both have their place in cricket, especially in Test cricket, but patience and tempera-

ment are not so much the ingredients for the spectator.

When Ken Barrington retired he nominated Fletcher as the player who was best equipped to fill the number 4 position in the England line up.

Fletcher's performances against the Rest of the World in 1970 — 340 runs average 48 — seemed to indicate that he was Barrington's rightful successor. And he even bowled a couple of overs of leg breaks.

Alas, he isn't in Barrington's class as a wicket-taker and honestly admits that he isn't.

'I'm not good enough to bowl in Tests or even county cricket,' he says. 'I'm about club standard. I've never professed to want to bowl.'

'Ray Illingworth does this kind of thing — put someone like my-

we were often short of slips so I fielded at first slip.

'That's not my favourite position. I watch the ball there. I prefer second slip, where I watch the edge of the bat.'

'I watch the edge of the bat when I'm at short leg or close on the off. I don't mind fielding in the covers or in the deep if they want me to.'

Fletcher made his debut for Essex in 1962 at the age of seventeen. 'I think that was a big advantage,' he says. 'I've learnt a lot and I'm still learning.'

'Most batsmen reckon they don't reach their best until they are late twenties and thirty. Look at John Edrich.'

'I know I've been around a long time but I look at it this way, I'd rather be where I am now after nine years than only having started at twenty-four or twenty-five.'

Fletcher is a quiet pipe-smoker who thinks deeply about his profession. The rest of the Essex players give you the impression that if the critics left him to play his cricket his own way, he would be a far better batsman.

He's a good player and the next,

KEITH FLETCHER

by A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

self on but I've never fancied it. A bad ball is as likely to get a good player out in top class cricket as it is in club cricket. I suppose.'

Fletcher's fielding stands out in the England side. And he's very versatile. He can field anywhere — and often does.

'I prefer being close in on either side of the wicket. Short leg or close on the off. But in Australia

two or three years should confirm whether he is to be a great player.'

No one has better epitomised the character of the man than Fletcher's former Essex captain, Brian Taylor, when he said of him: 'He's the most unselfish player in the game. We all want him to do well.'

Those sentiments will be echoed far beyond the boundaries of Essex.

Cricketers of the week... 18

BIRTHS

Sept. 26: V. L. Manjrekar (Ind) 1931, R. W. Barber (Eng) 1935, I. M. Chappell (Aus) 1943.

Sept. 28: J. Majid Khan (Pak) 1948.

Sept. 29: R. B. Kenny (Ind) 1930, L. R. Gibbs (WI.) 1934, L. F. Kline (Aus) 1934.

Sept. 30: A. F. Rae (WI.) 1922, A. P. Sheahan (Aus) 1946.

Oct. 1: T. W. Goddard (Eng) 1900, Saeed Ahmed (Pak) 1937, Naushad Ali (Pak) 1943.

Oct. 2: Sir Pelham Warner (Eng) 1873, P. T. Lewis (SA) 1884, G. E. Tribe (Aus) 1920, J. M. Ghorpade (Ind) 1930, G. E. Milman (Eng) 1934, B. K. Kunderan (Ind) 1939.

—ISWARA DUTT



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Maharashtra's hour of glory

IT was Maharashtra's hour of triumph at the First National Powerlifting Championships conducted by the West Bengal Weightlifters Association under the auspices of the Indian Weightlifting Federation in Calcutta

Maharashtra bagged five out of the eight titles, besides taking three silvers and one bronze. Maharashtra's power-plus men got their State's name inscribed in the befittingly sturdy rolling trophy named after Kalyan Chakravarty scoring as many as 102 points, with runners-up West Bengal — 57 points and Karnataka — 52 points trailing far behind

Incidentally, this victory of an open and senior team title has come to Maharashtra after a break of 22 years. Surely, the president and secretary of the Maharashtra State Weightlifting Association, who would be shortly laying down office under the six point guidelines to State Associations, could not have wished for a better farewell gift from their strongmen than this excellent showing

B Kamalaksha Amin (Karnataka) was the Best Lifter of the four day meet according to Hoffman formula, as, by his sterling performance in the light heavy weight division, which he won with a total of 527½ kg — the highest total completed in the entire championships — he brought out a formula score of 388.24 points

Two of Maharashtra's lifters



The victorious Maharashtra powerlifting team

Ashok Kamble and Hanuman Tawde, who were gold and silver medallists in the feather weight class with identical bodyweight (60 kg) and total of 440 kg, with formula score of 387.64 points were photo-finish rivals to Amin for the Best Lifter honour

These championships for the lifts of squat, bench press and dead lift, meant to improve the basic power and shape of the participants, also set at nought the claims of the newly found rival-body to represent and speak for powerlifting in India

WEEK, who must be following the controversy in this respect, the data given below would be enough to prove the real position:

As one who has spent a lifetime in the building up of the iron game, may this writer humbly request those in charge of the rival body to wind up same and come and join the mainstream — only five states support the rival body, whereas 16 support the IWF — which is open to all without distinction of caste, creed, colour or State, except that they should be amateurs

—T V HARIHAR

To the readers of the SPORTS



Kamalaksha Amin of Karnataka



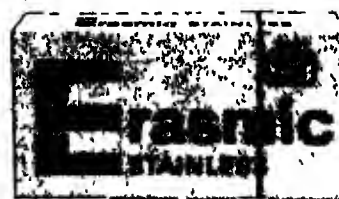
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OLYMPIC COREBOARD

CYCLING



1000m time trial: 1 Klaus-Jürgen Grunke (East Germany) 1:05.927. 2 Michel Vaarten (Belgium) 1:07.516. 3 Niels Fiedborg (Denmark) 1:07.617. 4 Janusz Kierkowski (Poland) 1:07.660. 5 Eric Vermeulen (France) 1:07.846. 6 Hans Michalsky (West Germany) 1:07.878.

Sprint: 1. Anton Tkac (Czechoslovakia) 2. Daniel Morelon (France) 3. Hans-Jürgen Geschke (East Germany) 4. Dieter Berkmann (West Germany) 5. Sergey Kravtsov (USSR) 6. Yoshika Cho (Japan).

4000m individual pursuit: 1 Gregor Braun (West Germany) 4:47.61. 2 Herman Ponsteen (Holland) 4:49.72. 3 Thomas Huschke (East Germany) 4:52.71. 4 Vladimir Osokin (USSR) 4:57.34. 5 Orfeo Pizzoferrato (Italy) 6. Carry Sutton (Australia).

4000m team pursuit: 1 West Germany (Gregor Braun, Hans Lutz, Guenther Schumacher, Peter Vonnhof) 4:21.06. 2 USSR (Vladimir Osokin, Alexander Petrov, Vitaly Petrakov, Victor Sokolov) 4:21.15. 3 G Britain (Ian Banbury, Michael Bennett, Robin Croker, Ian Hallam) 4:22.41. 4 East Germany (Norbert Durpisch, Thomas Huschke, Uwe Unterwalder, Matthias Wiegand) 4:22.75.

Individual road race: 1 Bernt Johansson (Sweden) 4:46.52.0. 2. Giuseppe Martinelli (Italy) 3. Mieczyslaw (Poland) 4. Alfons de Wolf (Belgium) 5. Nikolai Gorelov (USSR) 6. George Mount (USA).

100km team time trial: 1. USSR (Anatoly Chukanov, Valery Chaplygin, Vladimir Kaminsky, Aavo Pikkuus) 2:08.53.0. 2. Poland (Tadeusz Mytnik, Mieczyslaw Nowicki, Stanislaw Szozda, Ryszard Szurkowski) 2:09.13.0. 3. Denmark (Verner Blandzun, Gert Frank, Jorgen Hansen, Jorn Lund) 2:12:20.0. 4. West Germany (Hans Peter Jakst, Olaf Paltian, Von Loeffelholz, Peter Weibel) 2:12.35.0. 5. Czechoslovakia (Petr Buchacek, Petr Matousek, Milan, Vladimir Vondracek) 2:12.56.0. 6. G Britain (Paul Carbutt, Philip Griffiths, Dudley Hayton, William Nickson) 2:13.10.0.

Programmed for gold in Montreal was track cyclist Gregor Braun of the Federal Republic of Germany. In the 4,000 metre individual pursuit event, the 20-year-old machinist clearly surpassed runners-up Hermann Ponstee (Netherlands) and Thomas Huschke (GDR) with a time of 4:47.61 minutes. Just two days later Braun joined Hans Lutz, Gunter Schumacher, and Peter Vonnhof to garner the gold medal in the 4,000 metre team pursuit in supreme fashion, with a time of 4:21.06 minutes.

—NALANDA



THE serious charges against the organisers, or rather the hosts who organise the Junior National Football Championship at Srinagar on behalf of the All-India Football Federation, that the manager of the Maharashtra team levelled while talking to some newsmen appear to have substance in them. The fact that the state team's skipper, Camilo D'Silva, was allowed to take the field for Orkay Mills against Mafatlal Group in the Harwood League lends credence to the belief that all the noise made about Camilo's eligibility was only to prevent his playing in the crucial quarter-final tie against Karnataka.

Goa, who according to some observers were one of the two teams whose players all looked below the age limit of 18 — the other was Pondicherry, lodged the protest against Camilo D'Silva, claiming that they had documents to prove that he was past 18. The proof was to have been produced for the All-India Football Federation to take

Clear up this mess

the necessary action. That the AIFF did not take any action and that Camilo played for Orkay Mills' first match after the return of the Maharashtra team from Srinagar makes one wonder if the Goa Football Association did submit any documents. Or whether these did little to make the AIFF uphold the protest.

The Maharashtra official maintained that the suspension of Camilo for the match against Karnataka was purely to put psychological pressure on Maharashtra, one of the favourites for the Dr. B. C. Roy trophy this year, and to deprive the team of its best forward.

One is inclined to share the manager's view because of the strange methods the organisers adopted to penalise the youth international. Camilo had accounted for a good proportion of the goals scored by Maharashtra, besides also being a vital cog in the build-up of his team's attacks. So, it would only have been proper for the committee that imposed the suspension on the basis of the Goa protest unsupported by proof to take away all the victories that Maharashtra had scored with Camilo in the team and also debar the team. The suspension for one match without the case against Camilo being proved is against natural justice, which deems a man innocent unless proved guilty.

Maharashtra may not lodge a counter-protest against the organisers. But the All-India Football Federation is duty-bound to clear the air of suspicion by laying bare all the facts of the case and punishing the guilty.

It is time that the AIFF looked more closely at the conduct of the Junior National. Now that it is limited to players below 18 it should be easier for the AIFF to at least eliminate players who are employed as one has to be 18 to get on the payroll of a firm. By this criterion several of Maharashtra's team may not pass muster.

The AIFF should also enquire into the allegations of poor amenities. Players, it is learnt, had to bring their own beds and spread them on the floor to sleep or rest. Allowances for rail travel and for board during the journey must be provided. This may be an extra financial burden on the state holding the Junior National, and as the Junior National is not a money spinner, except perhaps in Kerala, the AIFF would be hard put to impose such a condition on its members. Manipur reportedly lost about Rs 60,000 in staging the 1975 Junior National. But the AIFF could siphon off some of the profits from the Senior National to the Junior National and thus meet the increased costs to make the participants more comfortable.

—SHARP SHOOTER

Another triple for Prakash

PRAKASH PADUKONE of Karnataka was a cut above the rest as he powered his way to three titles in the K. A. Nertakallappa Memorial Open Badminton Championships in Bangalore recently.

Prakash swept teammate P. G. Chengappa off his feet in the singles final and won the mixed doubles final with Ami Ghia without much effort. But in the doubles, he and Chengappa all but bit the dust against a superb combination of youngsters in Uday Pawar and Vikram Singh of Punjab, but pulled through mainly because of their experience.

Punjab's hard-hitting Kanwal Thakur Singh, who had toppled reigning National champion Ami Ghia of the Railways in the semi-finals, fought back to jolt Maureen Mathias, also of the Railways in the women's singles final.

Ami and Maureen, however, won the doubles title beating Kanwal and Uma Murti.

Junior National champ Syed



Prakash Padukone

Modi of UP, who is being coached by former National champion Suresh Goel, displayed all the tact and courtcraft of his mentor to walk away with the boys singles crown defeating Vikram Singh in the final.

Anita Madan of MP emerged the girls champion with a good win over Karnataka's Permindar Kohli. Both had jolted fancied players in the semis. Permindar toppling reigning India champ Manek Kelkar and Anita shocking Hafizah Narriman. Permindar went down fighting all the way in the final and with more experience she is bound to make the top grade in the near future.

The most heartening feature from Karnataka's viewpoint was the performance of their men who swept all opposition to make it an all-Karnataka semi-finals — a handsome tribute to the late Nertakallappa who has done so much for the promotion of this game.

—R. ARVINDAM

PELE:
the
master
and
his
method

**S
H
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N
G**

Pele is the leader of Pepsi Cola's international youth soccer programme which includes a near £100,000 sponsorship of the English Schools F.A. under-16 competition.

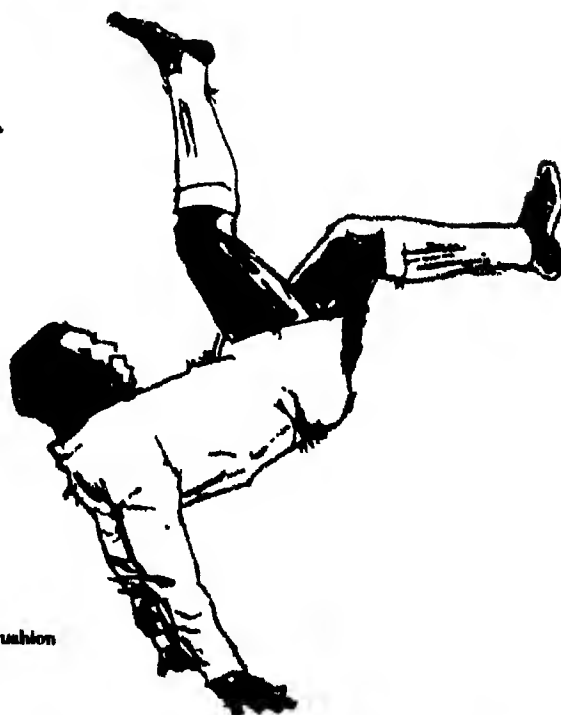
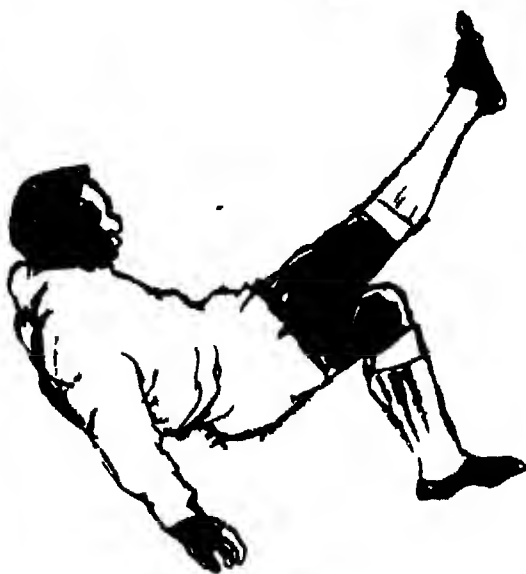
The Bicycle Kick

Some of Pele's most spectacular goals have been scored with the overhead bicycle kick - it demands much practice and careful timing.

For a right footed kick, the left leg leaves the ground first.



Then the right leg moves up into a full swing with the knee snapping straight as the foot meets the ball.



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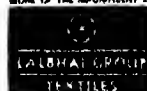


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CASTLED positions with the fianchetto Bishop are rendered vulnerable if the defending Bishop goes astray. A commonly occurring idea is to lure away the Bishop by the offer of material gain. The following two games played in the Bhilwara Trophy Tournament at Madras illustrate disaster that befalls the King bereft of the defending Bishop.

SICILIAN DEFENCE

White: S. Manikandaswamy

Black: T. N. Parameswaran

1. PK4, PQB4 2. NKB3, NQB3 3. BN5 (a) PKN3 4. 00 (b) BN2 5. RK1, PK3 (c) 6. PQ3, KNK2 7. NB3, 00 (d) 8. PK5, PQR3? 9. BxN, NxB 10. BB4, PB3 11. Pxp, Bxp (e) 12. NK4, Bxp 13. BQ6, BxR 14. BxR BB6 15. BR6! (f) BxR 16. QR1, NQ5 17. NxB, PxN 18. QxP, QK2 19. NB6ch, KB2 20. NxRP, PQ4 21. BR8! (g) PK4 22. QxPch, QK3 (h) 23. NN5ch, KB3 24. NxB, PxN 25. BN7ch, KxB 26. QxNPch, Black resigns.

(a) Nimzowitch-Rossilimo Attack or Moscow Variation

(b) The theoretical continuation

18. 4. PB3, NB3 5. PK5 or 5. QK2, BN2 6. 00, 00 7. PQ4, Pxp 8. Pxp, PQ4 9. PK5, NK5 (Bronstein-Tzeshkovsky, USSR Champ, 1975) In this game White is aiming at PK5 as in King's Indian Attack

(c) This move creates a black square weakness. The alternative is 5. NB3 6. NB3, 00 7. PK5, NK1

(d) Necessary was 7. PQ3 and 8. PK5, PQ4

(e) Black has too many black square weaknesses to defend. So he decides to try his luck with aggressive play.

(f) A fine move offering not just the exchange, but a whole Rook. If 16. QK2 17. NB6ch, KB2 18. NN5 mate.

(g) The Black Queen is trapped, 21. QK2 loses to 22. QN7ch, KK1 23. NB6ch

(h) Or 22. BK3 23. QB3ch

RUY LOPEZ

White R. Raghunathan

Black S. Hasan

1. PK4, PK4 2. NKB3, NQB3, 3. BN5, KNK2 4. 00, PKN3 5. PQ4, Pxp (a) 6. Nxp, BN2 7. PQB3, 00 8. BN5, PKR3 9. BKR4, NxB 10. PxN, PQB4? (b) 11. Pxp, PKN4 12. BN3, Bxp 13. NQ2, BBxR 14. QxB, QR4? 15. QB6, NN3 16. BQB1, PQ4 17. Bxp, KR2 18. BxBP, QR3 19. BxNch, KN1 20. BR7ch, KxB 21. QxR, Black resigns.

(a) A defect of this Ruy Lopez Defence (3. KNK2) is that Black has to surrender the centre

(b) This move practically compels White to give up the exchange, but Black has not reckoned with the disastrous consequences that follow after the disappearance of his fianchetto Bishop

AARON-RAVI SEKHAR

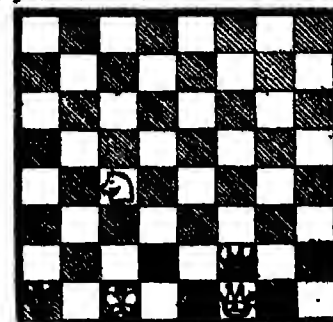
White: KKN1; B's-Q3, K3; N's-QR4, QR5; P's-QN2, Q5, K4, KB2, KN2, KR3

Black: KKR2; B's-QR1, KB3; N's-QN1, Q2, P's-QR3, Q3, K4, KB2, KN3; KR3.

27. NN6!, BQ1 28. N5B4!, NxB 29. BxN, BxB 30. NxB, BN2 31. NB4, KN2 32. Nxp, BR1 33. PQN4, KB1 34. KB1, PB3 35. KK2, KK2 36. NB8ch, KO1 37. NN6, BN2 38. BB2, KB2 39. NB4, BB1 40. BR4, BQ2 41. BxB, NxB 42. QK3, PN4 43. NK3, PKR4 44. NB5, KN3 45. KB4, NB1 46. NK7, KB2 47. PN3, NQ2 48. NB5, NB1 49. NN7, PR5 50. Pxp, Pxp 51. NK6ch! NxB 52. PxN, Black resigns.

END GAME

By S. V. Simhadri



White to play and win.

AT the recent CCI Open Pairs eliminations, many declarers floundered on this part-score hand, where the popular contract was three diamonds, after the following bidding sequence:

K1062
9852
AJ7
A3
N

J953 Q84
A6 W E KQJ104
10954 6
1072 KQ94

S
A7
73
KQ832
J865

Bidding:

N.	E	S	W
	1H	P	P
Dbl.	P	2D	P
P	2H	3C	P
3D	P	P	P

The opening lead was the Ace of hearts, followed by two more rounds of hearts. The third heart was ruffed at most tables with a diamond honour. Declarer now chased club ruffs in dummy and wound up promoting two trump



by JIMMY MEHTA

tricks for the defence in addition to the unavoidable heart and club losers. If declarer elects to ruff a third heart with the 8 allowing West a cheap over-ruff, there is no way to defeat the contract. Declarer can now proceed along dummy reversal lines ruffing the fourth heart high and restricting his trump losers to one.

An alternative line of play furnishes intriguing possibilities. After ruffing the third heart with an honour, declarer can play off Ace and King of spades, followed by a low spade ruff in hand. Club to the Ace and a fourth spade ruff in hand. Now, exit with the knave of clubs. If East now mechanically returns a trump, declarer

can come to an over trick by ruffing dummy's last heart with his remaining diamond honour and capturing West's diamond intermediate card while ruffing the third club in dummy. Careful defence to this line can restrict declarer to nine tricks, but the defence is not obvious. When the third heart is ruffed high, West must discard a spade from his four card holding setting up a winner in dummy but assuring promotion of at least one trump trick. Even if West does not discard his spade at that early stage, East can restrict declarer by returning the fourth heart instead of the trump when he is in with the second club. Now, West's diamond 10-9 combination cannot be denied a trick. Unless the defence is careful, West will find himself under ruffing on the last three tricks. The foundation of both lines is dummy reversal.

HEARD THIS ONE?

They searched like mad for the ball and finally the angry golfer let fly at his caddie.

'Why didn't you watch where the ball went?'

'I'm very sorry sir but it usually doesn't go anywhere — you took me by surprise!'

KNOW YOUR STARS

My elder brother Paras, a Rajasthan state player, encouraged me to take up playing basketball. I began in 1964 at the age of 13.

The game was gaining popularity all over Rajasthan and my home town Bhilwara was no exception. In addition, our college coach B M Diwakar started organising the all India Nehru gold cup tournament from 1965.

This provided me with a good opportunity of observing all the top Indian players in action just watching, I learnt many important techniques of the game. Meanwhile, I kept practising hard with my elder brother, under the guidance of Diwakar.

I was first included in the Rajasthan junior team for the Coimbatore nationals in 1965. We did not have a good team and fared quite miserably. I played again for the Juniors at Kottayam in 1968. We lost to Maharashtra in the semi-final. Also, in 1967-68, I represented Rajasthan University in the North Zone championship.

In 1969, at Calcutta, I played for the Rajasthan men's team. The same year, I was in the Indian team for the fifth Asian Championships at Bangkok. This trip provided me with very valuable experience. There, I marvelled at the great South Korean Shin Dong Pa. I consider him the best player I have ever seen on a basketball court.

S. K. Kataria



The year 1970 was very eventful. I played for India in the tenth anniversary of the Asian Championships at Manila. I was also a member of the Indian team which took part in the first Asian youth championship at Seoul. Then there were the sixth Asian Games at Bangkok.

Towards the end of the same year I was chosen to lead the Rajasthan men's team at the Agra nationals. Despite the absence of an injured Khushi Ram, we were able to reach the finals and lost to the Services.

I joined Western Railway in

1972. I have been a member of the Railways team at the various nationals ever since. Unfortunately, all these years we have been losing to the Services in the final, by narrow margins.

In the seventh Asian championship at Manila in 1973, I was the second highest scorer in the tournament. I earned the distinction of being included in the Asian team. On the basis of my excellent performance, the Indian government bestowed upon me, the coveted Arjuna award for that year.

Last year in November, I paid my third visit to Bangkok in connection with the eight Asian championship. We gained a creditable fourth position in the championship. I played well, particularly in crucial matches, like the one against holders Philippines whom we defeated convincingly.

Among the teams, I was most impressed by the Chinese. They displayed the best team work. The Russians, whom we recently played at Calcutta, were also good as a team. I liked the game of their captain Andre.

I am probably approaching my peak. Very naturally, like any other player, my ambition is to lead the national team. After that, I shall keep on playing only till I am really good. We have got some bright youngsters who, by then, will be ready to take over.

—JAVED AKHAR

How much do you know?

- 1 What is the 'cut line' in squash?
- 2 Should a boxer appear in the ring to be awarded a walk-over?
- 3 When a cricket umpire waves his hand from side to side, and raises an open palm above his head what does it mean?
- 4 What are the events an athlete competes in for the decathlon?
- 5 What is the height of the net in badminton?
- 6 In playing a fast parallel return, in ball badminton, the ball grazes the top of the net, as an umpire what is your decision?

- 7 As a football referee while examining goal nets before the match what will you look for?

ANSWERS:

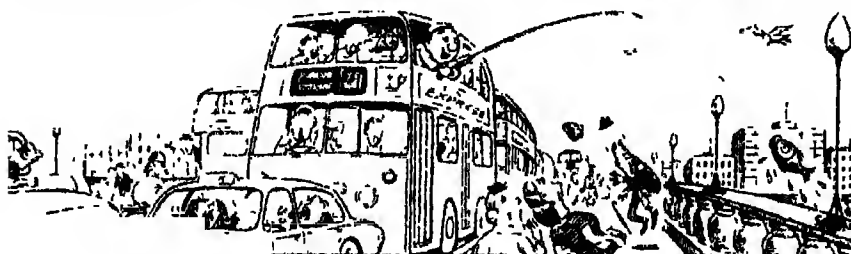
1 A line set out upon the front wall, six feet above the floor and extending the full width of the court. 2 Yes, and properly dressed for boxing. 3 He is signalling a boundary (four) and a bye. 4 100 m, 400 m and 1,500 m runs, 110 m hurdles, high and long jumps, pole vault, shot put, discus and javelin throws. 5 Five feet one inch at the posts and five feet at the centre. 6 It is a fault. 7 That the nets are properly pegged down and there are no holes in it.

HEARD THIS ONE?

'Shall we play again next Saturday?' asked John.

'Well, I was going to get married that day, but I suppose it could wait.'

SPORTING SAM by Reg Wootton



AND now that the cricket season is once again approaching, a lot of commercial firms and individuals are as usual working out schemes to award prizes to people who nominate correctly the 14 members to be selected for the Indian team.

My friend, who lives on the 21st floor and owns several industrial undertakings (including textile mills, hair cream factories, etc.), is also planning to run his own competition this year.

He was telling me about it "To the first entry to be opened, giving all 14 names correct, I will give one terylene trouser piece I will also write personally to the lucky winner and call him to visit me and select his trouser piece. Thank you"

"Good idea," I said

My friend continued: "To the person who correctly nominates more than ten members of the team but less than 14, I will present two free tickets to Wankhede Stadium and an official scorecard autographed by S K Wankhede"

"Excellent," I said

"To the person who nominates nine members, including the captain, I will give one hair cream factory and a black and white photograph of Farokh Engineer," he said "Farokh Engineer will be the chief guest at the prize distribution ceremony"

BUZZING AROUND

by BUSYBEE

"How thrilling," I said

"To the person who nominates eight members, including the first and second wicketkeepers I will provide a TV set so that he can watch the Test in the comfort of his home and also charge his neighbours a nominal fee to see it," he said.

"Nice," I said.

My friend said "To all those who nominate seven members, I will present textile mills with full staff, whose salaries I will continue to pay for the next five years. The only condition will be that they will not be allowed to hold competitions in which terylene trouser pieces will be given as prizes"

"Fair enough," I said

"And those who nominate between four and six members will be selected on the team to be named

after me and which will participate in next year's Moin-ud-Dowla tournament," he said "And to assure that it will be a good and strong team, all the winners will be sent to England for proper coaching"

"Great," I said

My friend said: "The first entry containing three correct nominations to be opened will be entitled to a cash prize of Rs 5 lakhs. Subsequent entries to be opened will be awarded cash prizes of Rs 7 lakhs each. The winners will be advised to invest their winnings in small savings."

"Correct," I said

"And so we come to those who nominate two members correctly in the team of 14 to be selected by the official selection committee," said my friend "They will be made life-members of the Cricket Club of India and arrangements will be made to send them all to Australia to be guests at the Centenary Test. On the way back, they will be allowed to stop in Singapore for 24 hours for shopping"

"And what will those who nominate one member correctly get?" I asked

My friend replied "They will get nothing. You must understand that this is a serious competition, not a joke"

QUESTION BOX

Q WHY is India not taking as much interest as other countries in producing fast bowlers?

—P S V G Prabhu (Hyderabad 4)

A YOUR charge is not true. We have organised more seminars than any other nation on how to produce fast bowlers.

Q WAS Surinder Amarnath the hero or the villain of the twin series with New Zealand and the West Indies?

—Z B Inamdar (Bijapur)

A HE began as a hero

Q IS Viswanath the name or the surname of Test batsman G R Viswanath?

—Miss Dharini Deo (Gadag, Karnataka).

A IT is his name and, for official purposes, the surname.

Q WHAT is India's position in world cricket today?

—M Saikia (Gauhati 6)

A NOT at the top, nor right down at the bottom

Q WHICH Indian bowler was known as "Tiny"?

—V G Chiplunkar (Bombay)

A FORMER Test pace bowler Ramakant Desai

Q CAN a bowler be warned by the umpire if he bowls too many wide balls in an over?

—P A Vishwas (Pune-11)

THE bowler can please himself

Q WILL Katsan Ghavri be coming to India to play in the forthcoming Test against New Zealand and England?

—Pranay Kr Chhatra (Bermo) and Rajeev Batra (New Delhi-58)

A GHAVRI has already returned from England and found a place in Bombay's Ranji Trophy squad. Whether he will play in the

Tests will depend upon how well he is able to impress the selectors.

Q WHAT is the Test record of Katsan Ghavri?

—Nitin V Raichura (Chandrapur)

A GHAVRI played in three Tests against the West Indies in 1974-75, totalled 87 runs in six innings at an average of 17.40, with 35 not out in the second innings of the fourth Test at Madras as his highest score. He also claimed nine wickets for 316 runs at 35.11 apiece.

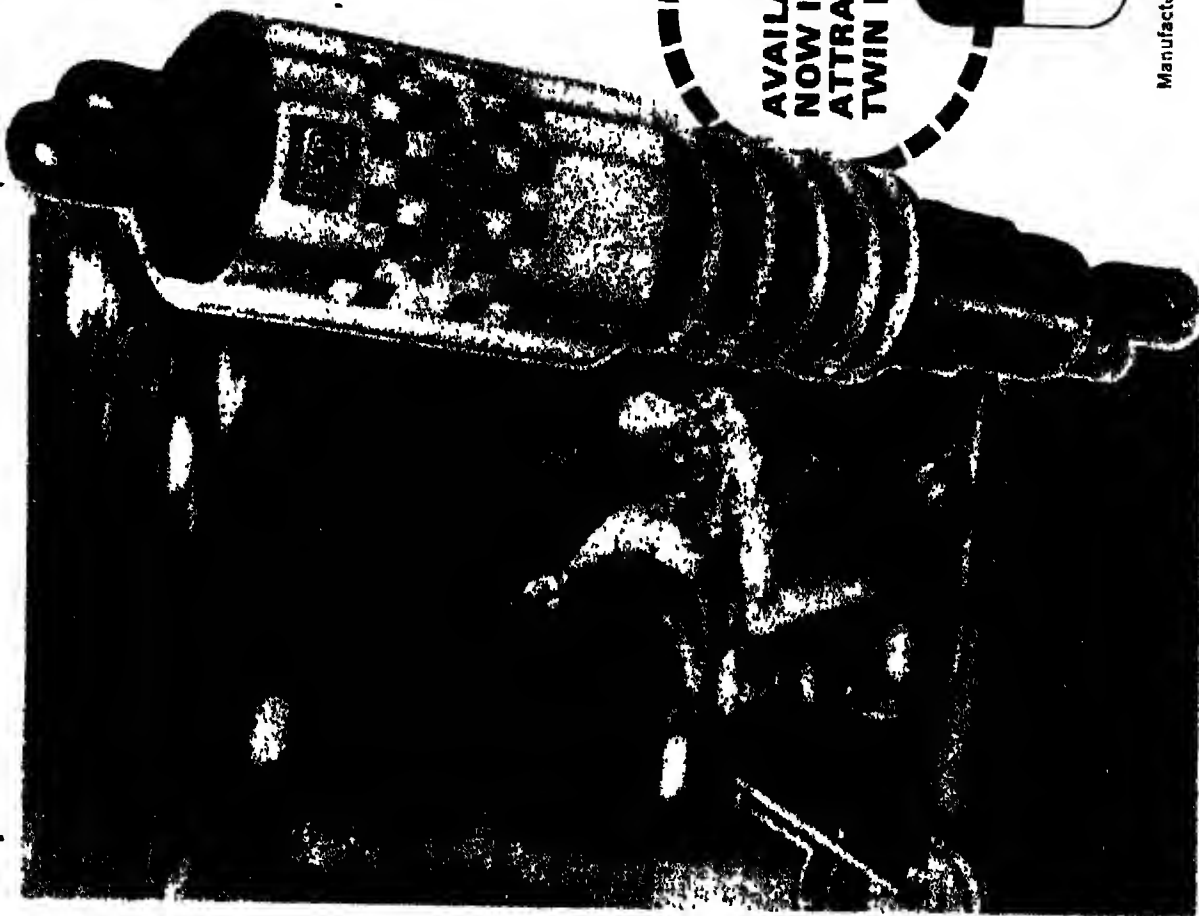
Q PLEASE say something about Ravi Modi

—Ratan Chand

(Dunlop Estate West Bengal)

A BORN in November 11, 1924, Modi has played in ten official Tests and scored 736 runs at an average of 46.00, with 112 in the second Test against the West Indies in Bombay in 1948 as his best effort. His five centuries in successive Ranji Trophy matches in 1944 and his aggregate of 1,008 runs for the season are still all-India records. He now writes regularly on the game.

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Treacherous, but interesting

PRUNED to a single leg and a super league among the top five of the 12 teams and played for the most part on a slushy and unpredictable Cooperage ground, the Harwood Football League, nevertheless, has produced interesting fare.

It is unfortunate, however, that teams in the lower half of the table should have had to play many games under treacherous conditions. Western Railway, who with promoted Bank of India are in the thick of the fight against relegation, were the worst affected.

But the ground conditions also brought about some upsets. Western played much better and more intelligently than they had all season to shock Central Railway, one of the teams in the running for a place in the super league. Skipper Kosalram was their best performer, with left stopper K K Bakshi not far behind.

The keener matches were played in the fortnight after the return of the Maharashtra team from the Junior National at Srinagar, where they lost in the quarter-final to Karnataka. Central Bank and Orkay Mills between them had about half a dozen regulars at Srinagar. Hence their fixtures had been postponed.

Central Bank, who had played only two matches before the Junior National, went through five games since the state team's return at the time of writing. They first crashed to a one-goal defeat to Navy. Then followed their good victory over



Central Bank's Zeno Rodrigues shoots goalwards in vain. Central Bank beat Mafatlal 1-0



Tata's Sebastian Cunha has beaten the Mahindra goalkeeper and defenders with this fine header. Tata won 3-1

holders Mafatlal, substitute Jhonsy Gracias' goal deciding a listless match that disappointed the goodly crowd.

The bankmen showed their earnestness in staying on the winning track in their matches against Maharashtra State Police and Bank of India. But they soiled their record with a heavy defeat at the hands of Orkay Mills. A goal from an indirect free kick, which they claimed should not have been allowed as no player had touched the ball after Arthur Pereira floated his indirect free kick, was the start of their disintegration.

They had the better of the exchanges and made better scoring efforts before they lost their cool and yielded the initiative. Orkay seized it with both hands and scored through Arthur Pereira and Camilo D'Silva in the second half.

Orkay were left as the only unbeaten team when Mafatlal Group proved superior to Tata Sports Club, winning by three goals to nil. Thomas Fernandes and Hari-kishan Thapa were a better pair of halves than their counterpart in the Tata line-up, Sukumaran and Melwyn Oliver.

With the Mafatlal forwards showing a good turn of speed and their deep defence also proving firm, with Balakrishnan against standing out, theirs was a fairly comfortable and convincing victory.

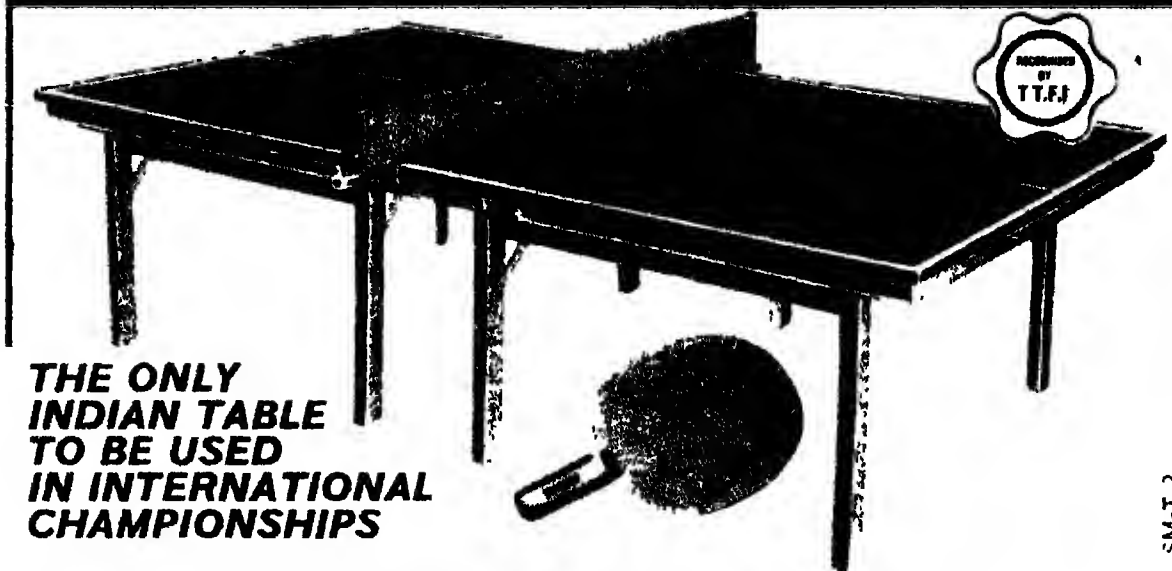
—SW Correspondent



Mafatlal's Balakrishnan foils Orkay's Pereira in a drawn game

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MISCELLANY

Ali v Norton

KEN NORTON was in a pine-clad lodge at the bottom of a 1000 ft. skislope and, as he looked out of the window, he might have thought that that is the distance he has to climb to overhaul Muhammad Ali when they dispute the world heavyweight championship in New York.

Ali will be defending his title for the seventeenth time (and the fourth this year) — and the intriguing difference about this one is that Norton is one of only two men to beat him, the other being the once-furious Joe Frazier, now enjoying the first few months of retirement.

If anyone can live with Ali on the high mental plane this war is bound to demand, then ex-marine Norton, Illinois-bred, occasional film actor and onetime football protegee, may well be the man of destiny. At least, he thinks so.

Norton fought Ali twice in 1973. He broke Ali's jaw in the first meeting, winning on points, and lost the return, also on points.

"Now we are up for all the marbles, and I am very confident I think I won both of the previous fights," he says.

"This is my last chance with Ali — my last chance at the title. I am not as green as when I fought Foreman. I am a much smarter individual in the ring. But this one is going to be hectic."



Muhammed Ali and Ken Norton in their pre-flight mock routine at Yankee Stadium, New York

Montreal lessons

THE bitter lesson learnt at Montreal has inspired the reconstituted Board of the Society for the National Institutes of Physical Education and Sports (SNIPES) to take some far-reaching decisions for the improvement of sports and physical education in the country, mainly through systematic short and long term planning.

The Board, which met in Bombay last week, under the presidency of Vidya Chaitan Shukla, Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, was of the view that preparation for the coming international events like the 1978 Asian Games, 1978 World Cup hockey, 1980 Olympics in Russia, 1982 Asian Games in India, should commence right away.

Public sector undertakings

should be more liberal in employing outstanding sportsmen, provide facilities for training, participation in tournaments within and outside the country. They should be provided the necessary leave and be paid.

The Board also felt that sports-consciousness should be aroused among the masses with the assistance of the mass media communications at our disposal. Charts, documentaries and training films could be prepared with the help of the National Institute of Sports.

It was also felt that the National coaching schemes should be revitalised to make it result oriented. The services of the NIS coaches should be utilised for promoting games which fall under Olympic disciplines.

Serious note was taken of the poor standard of supervision of sports events. They were not in keeping with international standards. Clinics should be organised accordingly. Qualified coaches working under the National Coaching Scheme or employed by State Sports Councils or Universities should be given facilities to qualify as umpires, referees and judges.

The Board felt that the services of only such foreign coaches should be requisitioned where an urgent need was felt and these persons should be of the highest class in their own country.

It suggested that full utilisation should be made of the German Democratic Government's offer to train 6 coaches under the Indo-GDR Cultural Exchange Programme. Swimming, athletics, gymnastics pedagogy should be concentrated on.

The meeting was attended by Gen P. P. Kumaramangalam, Air Chief Marshal O. P. Mehra, Umrao Singh, S. Buta Singh, S. K. Wankhede, K. D. Singh, Ghulam Ahmed.



Punjab Sports Minister Umrao Singh hands over a memento to Sriram Singh. The athlete was honoured by the Punjab Government for his creditable performance at Montreal.

MASTER PLAN FOR SPORT

Wanted: Sports Ministry

FIRST and foremost, there should be a full-fledged Sports Ministry at the Centre to look after the developments of sports. The officials appointed in this department should be people really dedicated to sports. Secondly, our top coaches should be sent abroad for specialising in their subjects.

Every village of the country should have at least a playground if not stadium for indoor games and coaching camps should be held in these villages at least once a year.

Schools, colleges and offices should have their recreation clubs and they should provide all the facilities to its members. The children at an early age should be given equipment as toys to play with. The parents and teachers should take special care to see that the child takes interest in sports. Rich parents should not lag behind for providing necessary facilities to their children. As our country is poor, it cannot afford to provide facilities like European countries, hence, half the burden should be shouldered by big organisations by giving donations, sponsoring coaching camps etc.

For big events like Olympics the State/Union Territory should be asked to send their first three sportsmen in each event for the final selection. This final selection should be done at least two years in advance. The selection committee should consist of members of one each from north, south, east and west. The age group of these athletes should be between 16-18 years. They should be given extensive training by the best coaches available in the country.

The State/Union Territory Governments should hold inter-state tournaments and competitions in different events to keep the sportsmen busy throughout the year. Promising sportsmen should be given jobs and necessary incentives. This venture once started in a big way should be maintained for the years to come.

—Joaquim Teles (Panaji).

In the schools

SPORTS must be made compulsory in all schools and colleges. The schools should also have subjects like football, hockey, cricket, athletics, aquatics, gymnastics, wrestling, etc. as outdoor games and table tennis, chess, carrom, billiards, etc. as indoor games.

Every student should take at least one subject either indoor or outdoor. The indoor should be mostly for the physically handicapped students. No student should be allowed to take more than 3 sports subjects.

There should also be very good coaches, who are either NIS trained or well experienced in a particular game. The deserving students should be given scholarships upto college level. Secondly, sports equipment rates should be lowered and deserving and poor students should be supplied these at concessional rates.

The timings of sports subjects should be regulated in such a manner that it does not clash with the regular studies. Regular studies should be in the mornings for higher classes and in the evenings for lower classes. Likewise, the playground can be used in the mornings for lower classes and in the evenings for higher classes.

More playgrounds and stadia must be made available free of cost for any kind of sports, provided the condition of the ground is not hampered by that particular game. Every school should have a playground of their own as far as possible.

There should be only one vacation for an academic year and that too should be for a period of at least 3 months. During these periods all state level associations should arrange camps for juniors, sub-juniors, seniors and sub-seniors, either according to ages or class-wise. The selected players should be sent abroad regularly or invite other countries to take part in various competitions during these periods.

Promising sportsmen should also be given suitable jobs and they should be also heavily insured by the council of sports. After retirement, players should be entrusted with the training of young sportsmen.

Lastly, the state council of sports should see to it that all employees who are either officials or players from private or Government offices be given special casual leave with full pay. The state council of sports should employ more coaches for each and every district. The sports council should also have a state level sports meet for all sports and games and select them for inter state level meets.

—Robert Almeida
(Cuncolim—Goa)

Panels in each state

A SPORTS committee should be set up in every State in the country. This committee should consist of eight members, all of whom have distinguished themselves in sport. At least two members should be or have been renowned hockey players, and one a famous cricketer.

This committee will act as talent-spotters as well as coaches. They will visit every educational institution in their State. It will be their job to spot out potential winners in any sport. The most promising one should be coached on the spot, i.e. at their schools.

The most talented should be singled out and sent to a regular training sports camp. Here again, the most talented should be given expert coaching (by foreign coaches if possible). Overseas tours should be organised at this stage.

Scholarships should be granted to the very best. This should be utilised towards the building up of body by way of nutrition and diet.

Greater facilities should be offered in all States to encourage

sport. Many more sports grounds should be set up. This and equipment at reasonable costs, will encourage our sportsmen to take up to sport more seriously.

Sports MUST be made compulsory in all educational institutions.

Leave politics out of sport. Be just and fair. Select the most talented youths, boys or girls, irrespective of what walk of life they may come from. This principle should also be adopted in setting up the sports committee from each State.

—J. C. Lodrick (Jaipur).

Via cinema

CINEMA is the best way to coach the athletes. Every cinema house must show "a coaching reel of sports" before the start of the picture.

If we make sports compulsory in schools and colleges the students only get the benefit but the other people cannot get the benefit. Among them there may be some good athletes.

—Dilip Kumar Guro
Balangir (Orissa)

MAIL BAG

An appraisal

WITH an eventful season ahead, an appraisal of the Indian cricket scene is in order. Our batting still revolves entirely around Gavaskar and Viswanath. Without attempting to detract from their gallant exploits, it would be wrong to presume that Patel, Mohinder Amarnath and Vengsarkar have matured into genuine Test class batsmen.

On the West Indian tour Kirmani's keeping was atrocious, underlining the fact that Engineer is still the best wicketkeeper in the land and that his presence would bolster our brittle batting.

Spin is our strong suit, nay the kingpin of our cricket team. In the coming season our wily spinners should once again enhance their reputations. As for our fast bowlers, the less said the better. Yet notwithstanding the patchy make-up of our team, India's prospects are good on home turf.

—S V Rao (Lucknow)

IT will be a good thing for Indian cricket to retain Bishen Bedi as captain for the coming series against New Zealand and England.

—Avinash V Joshi (Latur)

Commentators

IF we cannot bring Tony Cozier to India for the forthcoming cricket series we can at least have the few who are tolerable. It is a question of giving them an opportunity. Let's hope the right men are chosen so that we can enjoy some pleasant listening.

—N. Krishnamurthy (New Delhi)

ON behalf of thousands of cricket lovers all over India, I request SPORTSWEEK to make arrangements to bring any one of the BBC cricket commentators with the MCC team for the forthcoming tour.

—R. Vasudevan (Kalpakkam).

Third trip

RICHARD COLLINGE, a member of the New Zealand cricket team to tour India this year is the only second Test cricketer to visit India thrice with official Test sides. He was the member of

the teams which toured India in 1965 and 1969 under John Reid and Graham Dowling. Now he will be playing under Glenn Turner.

Before Collinge, Lance Gibbs was the only cricketer to do so, he visited India thrice with the West Indies sides which came to India in 1959, '67 and '74 under Gerry Alexander, Gary Sobers and Clive Lloyd respectively.

—Bhartendu Sood (Kota)

JOHAN SNOW'S 'Cricket Rebel' bears the veritable stamp of his now-famous (to some notorious) idiosyncrasy, namely candour crowned with courage.

A poet himself, "He hath loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword; His truth is marching on."

Far from "committing suicide" as David Emery says, Snow has gone down "bold, bloody but unbowed."

—Dileep Phal Desai (Goa)

New star

ISEE a bright new star from Maharashtra, 14-year-old Ameeta Kulkarni, who has won more badminton titles in one year than others have in over a decade!

I have been following her badminton career with great interest and I believe that she is one of our most exciting prospects since Ami Ghia hit the headlines a few years ago. She has all the makings of a potential champion and with a little more experience will surely blossom into a national champion.

—M N Mazumdar (Bombay)

CONGRATULATIONS to the Andhra boys for their victory in the 14th Junior National Football Championship at Srinagar, after a lapse of nine years.

—Shaikh Zahoor (Cuttack)

THOUGH BUSYBEE has removed various doubts about dog-racing, he has overlooked one serious problem which may crop up if the foreign dogs are allowed to participate in Bombay races. What if South Africa also sends its dogs for participation?

—Shekhar Gupta (Chandigarh)

IT is very heartening to note that the Union Finance Ministry has exempted sports equipment from customs duty. We hope that the Government will take necessary steps to supply sports equipment at a concession to schools and colleges so that more students can take part actively in games.

—B. S. Ramaswamy (Konanur)

Well done

IHAVE no words to express my praise for your taking up the cause of Indian sports. Hope the authorities concerned will pay heed to your advice.

—Sangeet Singh Shukla (New Delhi).

SPORTSWEEK deserves praise for its efforts to make the nation sports conscious and for its suggestion for a Master Plan for sports. I think the government and other agencies should go all out to support these measures.

—Bakul Patel (Nadiad)

THE magazine that cares for Indian sport has lived up to its slogan. We wish you all success in your endeavour to evolve a Master Plan for sports and your efforts to make the country sports conscious.

—Nitin and Sangita Puri (Allahabad)

ALL IN THE GAME



"He used to be a fast bowler for the county eleven"



IF Tudor Moss, the expensive got-abroad son of Star Moss-Tudor Sky, is to be a threat to Swanderer, the Valoroso-Milky Way colt who has established himself as the best three-year-old in the country by his convincing victory in the 2,000 metres Bangalore Derby, in the forthcoming Indian Classics in Bombay he not only has to win the 1,800 metres General Rajendrasinhji Gold Cup in Pune he has to do so impressively

Tudor Moss, who is the winner of two races from three starts and who went down to Chashm-E-Shahi in the 1,400 metres F D Wadia Gold Cup largely because he was racing after eight months, has seven rivals of his age at the final forfeit stage of the second of the two major sweepstakes for them, has a weight advantage of 3.5 kilos over Pinot Noir, who has to carry topweight of 60 kilos as he is the winner of three races

Pinot Noir is not this column's idea of Classic material and the others do not rate a second mention in the same terms. That being so, if Tudor Moss, who is trained by S M Shah and will be ridden by Richard Alford, does not triumph with something in reserve it can rightly be concluded that his Classic chances have suffered a setback. Accordingly, his connections will be most concerned about his performance as his entire future will hinge upon it.

The decision of the RWITC to deny riders, who have not ridden five winners, the use of the whip is excellent in principle. Unhappily, the new crop of apprentices do not amount to much and it has been observed repeatedly that when they take out the stick they usually lose control of their mounts and, apart from being unable to do justice to them, they constitute a danger to the field. However, the basis on which the prohibition is made is wrong. Clearly, the idea is to deny riders with little experience of the whip and it naturally follows that the number of winners ridden is not necessarily indicative of the experience of a rider. What must be done is to specify that a rider will not be allowed the use of the whip until he has a certain number of rides

This is patently a better yardstick as it is quite possible that a raw apprentice because of the lucky availability of winning rides reaches the magic figure of "five" before he can be said to be able to handle a whip competently.

Similarly, the allowances available to riders should be determined on the number of rides as also the number of wins. Thus, the incompetent or just unfortunate rider will be penalised for his lack of ability. This is one of several matters which set the serious racegoer thinking and it follows that the authorities should also apply their minds to them.

Does the RWITC construe rules to suit the convenience of the case? This question has arisen by the decision to suspend the licence of apprentice jockey Subash, who was recently reported to have been arrested by the Pune police on a charge of being drunk and disorderly. The authorities are well within their rights to take such

acceptable as a member is he acceptable as an owner? More food for thought!

Last week Lover Boy and Mayalu, who had won previously last time out, maintained their winning streak and Black Swan, who had shown promise fulfilled it. On the other hand, King Rosa and Vedette Renee ran below the expectations they had raised. That is the way of the game. Consider, My Select, who just held Time Queen by a short head at level weight in the 1,400 metres A Campbell Plate, now decisively beat Time Queen by one and a half lengths in the P Hadow Plate over the same distance when carrying 15 kilos more than her. F M Billimoria's Rockwell-Icicle five-year-old mare, who is trained by D N Adenwalla has improved beyond all recognition and is clearly the most advanced of the other horses racing in Pune.

There was a great deal of smart money for Sagaro, a Risby-Ever

Tudor Moss has a lot to prove

action but it has been pointed out that when a veteran trainer was arrested on a very much more serious charge at the same centre, admittedly off-season, no such action was taken. Of course, it must be realised that the authorities are right in taking a stricter line with youngsters as their character and future are in the process of being moulded.

Tragic case

Similarly, the approach to owners and members follows different lines. When the late T G Gaokar and Balchand Choraria were arrested on smuggling charges they were allowed to continue as owners pending the disposal of the cases. Gaokar's was a tragic case as, broken in health as he was, he died within a week of being finally acquitted on appeal. Choraria went to jail and on his release, although he was no longer a member or an owner, he was allowed to be admitted as a guest. This is clearly wrong in principle, apart from being contrary to the rules. Today, Choraria is wanted under COFEPOSA with a price on his head!

More to the point is the recent case of an owner whose application for membership of the club has been rejected. If he is un-

Ready colt who had raced only twice before in his career, in the 1,400 metres Vengula Plate which had a field of 11 maiden three-year-olds. He was no match for Black Swan and finished a head behind second-placed Touraco (is this filly going to be a second Mandsaur?) because the rider of the latter eased up before the finish. Nonetheless, he showed much progress and he should be expected to win before the close down.

House of Lord continues to be luckless. Had this full brother to Loyal Prince (he is by Loyal Manzar-Grecian Princess) not gone wide when taking the home turn he would certainly have scored over public choice Springbok, who had to be hard ridden to prevail by one length in the 1,200 metres Royal Windsor Cup.

Mosum Bahar continues to be an enigma, running poorly and then confounding the form book. He made nonsense of it again in the 1,800 metres Tezpur Plate when he scored by half a length from the odds-on Pushpahaar. He did so because of the excellence of Nelson Reuben's riding. This is the second time that Reuben has outridden Vasant Shinde the golden boy of the Western India turf, and it must set punters thinking.

Ultimately, horses make jockeys!

Not a chance!

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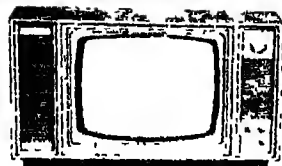
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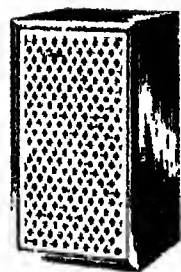
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BOXING

Muhammad Ali retained the World Heavy weight boxing title with a hairsbreadth victory over Ken Norton at Yankee Stadium, New York, and then decided to call it a day Barry Newcombe was there, eye-witness to a great fight (p 6-7)

FOOTBALL

The two giants of Calcutta soccer, Mohun Bagan and East Bengal shared the IFA Shield Subroto Sankar reports on a tournament that failed to reach any great heights (p 8-9)
Black 'Pearl' Pele's lesson on dribbling (p 19)

CRICKET

The New Zealanders are coming Portraits of all 15 members (p 10) But first they have a three-Test series against Pakistan and B B Manna traces the history of Test cricket between the two countries (p 13)

The Queensland Cricket Association completes 100 years this month. Its headquarters the Woolloongahba Oval is one of those grounds which has a hoary past Ray Robinson refreshes your memory (p 14-15)

COVER: The New Zealand hockey team acknowledges the cheers after the medals presentation ceremony The Kiwis scored a shock 1-0 win over Australia to win the gold Transparency Sarosh J Nagari vala.

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SHARAD KOTNIS:

Board maintains status quo

THE annual general meeting of the Cricket Control Board in New Delhi last week was remarkable for its business-like manner. The expected fireworks as regards the election of the office bearers and the selection committee proved a damp squib because the Board's powers that be decided to stand united in view of the recent questionnaire issued by the Parliamentary Committee on Sports to go into the working of all sports federations.

A fortnight before the AGM it was mentioned in Board circles that the selection committee would be reconstituted, bringing in some veteran cricketers who were involved with the game. Ultimately, the Board pinned its faith on the same pointer for yet another year — a season which is very important for Indian cricket with eight matches crowded into it. It is a case of old wine in the same old bottle and its only merit is that continuity will be maintained and the selectors will be able to pursue their policy for another term.

All said and done, the selectors have not performed too badly, judging by the Indian team's performances during the twin-tours of New Zealand and the West Indies. One hopes, however, that there will not be a repeat of their exercise in futility as was witnessed against Sri Lanka. Let them dedicate themselves to the task at hand, that is to win the series against New Zealand and the MCC. It will call for a casting away of their parochial attitude and a realistic approach to team building with an eye on the series against Australia next season.

The new — or rather the old — selection committee got down to the job right away to select the Rest of India team for the Iran Cup match. In this first 'trial', the selectors have once again pinned their faith on youngsters. But we hope that some of the colts who have been called up will get a fair trial and will not be rejected on a lone performance. The general opinion is that the Rest of India team should be composed of the best of the rest but in view of the necessity of unearthing new talent and a seemingly sluggishness in the pipeline, the selectors' policy of trying out as many youngsters as possible is justified.

The Cricket Board deserves to be congratulated for taking into account the present and future needs of the players. They are the ones who keep the coffers of the Board full and certainly deserved a better deal. The decision of the Board to raise the players' Test allowances and give them the benefit of a pension scheme more or less on the lines of the other leading cricket playing countries in the world is commendable.



Ali drives a right into Norton in the second round

VERDICT LEAVES NORTON IN TEARS.

ALI WINS, THEN QUILTS

MUHAMMAD ALI retained his heavyweight title then on the morrow of his victory quit the ring. But defiant Ken Norton, no cringing crusader on his long night of duty at Yankee Stadium, New York, will never believe he lost.

Ali scraped his closest victory as champion, taking the verdict of both judges and the referee over the 15-round course.

But it left no triumphant shouts of glory from Ali or his followers. No proud protestations that he had devoured Norton in the way he had intended. This was a business of hairbreadth margins — and Ali knows it.

As Ali took off for his night's

by BARRY NEWCOMBE

rest, he made his shock announcement that he was planning to retire.

"I will go to sleep, and then I will think about it," he said, partially closing the curtain over himself after 55 fights.

The 34-year-old Ali said to trainer Angelo Dundee "It's time for us to get out now, wouldn't it be wise to get out now, to get out as champion?"

"I could feel retirement. So many times I could feel age catching up with me. I felt it in my mind, in my endurance.

"I'd be wise to quit. I've

3,000,000 dollars each, and I got three movies to make and could earn a billion dollars in a big wheat deal."

If you sympathize with Norton, the massive ex-marine whose boldness and bravery we sometimes questioned, whose nerve for the big occasion we had queried, picture only the sight of Norton in his corner at the end. A giant with child's tears.

As Ali and Norton paraded their talents under a black starless night, before 30,200 spectators hungry for blood and drama, only the men silently noting the output of skill knew that it all hung on the last round. It was that close.

As they touched gloves for the crucial 15th, Norton chided Ali's fist blows by muttering to him: "Pop, pop, pop." Down in Ali's corner his men were shouting: "Finish it, champ, end the show. Get that sucker." But Ali could not.

He could not put down the challenge of Norton, who squared with him, snarled at him, and stayed upright. But the round was scored.

Play a game
—TODAY

to Ali. And a minute or so later, with the stadium buzzing with controversy, that was that. Ali was still king—with a title and crown

Back in the gray-walled dressing-room from which he had come to bid for the world title, Norton was as adamant and stubborn as he had been in the open-air ring

"I know I won it," he said "He knows I won it I told him I won it, but you can't get a decision against him

"I out-fought him completely. Every flurry he made, I broke it up. It's obvious that I should get another fight. I was better in this fight than the two previous fights—the judges made asses of themselves"

Norton and Ali have now fought 39 rounds in three years — two 12-rounders in 1973, splitting the decisions, and now this one, from which Ali walks away as champion and Norton as the baleful loser

There was little fury in this argument, few rounds of burning inspiration or purple deeds. Maybe Ali can never catch fire against Norton. Maybe Norton's style is tailor-made to torment and confuse him

That was the way it seemed as the two men fought a private war with Ali three years the older, being forced to marshal his resources to last the distance that Norton had demanded of him

Ali may have smashed the immense George Foreman to regain the title in Kinshasa two years ago. He may have trodden new paths of glory in defeating Joe Frazier in Manila's Thrilla a year ago — but this verdict will prick at his ego like no other. He wanted total satisfaction in this showdown, but it squirmed out of his gloves

Ali had thundered promises that Norton would fall in five. He had talked of winning in one round, in four rounds, but these were the words of hope, not of fulfillment

He wanted to dismiss Norton with brutal speed, just as Foreman did in Caracas in 1974, but Norton was a different animal from that Venezuelan night. This time he came like a man prepared to conquer

The verdict? In my book, Ali was the victor because a champion's crown should be taken from him and Norton could not do that with the decision the occasion demanded. He was found lacking—just

Ali thought he stood even with Norton going into the 13th round, and knew he had to raise his ambition in the late stages. But the exercise, he said, left him "very tired, with very sore ribs. But I won. To win the title, you have



Ali, wide-eyed in wonder at a newsman's question, and Norton displaying that powerful right, address a post-fight press conference

to whip the champion, and he didn't whip me"

Whether this is the end for Ali or not, rest assured he is not the man he was. The years are catching up with him and it may need a mighty mental, rather than physical, effort to convince himself otherwise. If nothing else, Norton questioned Ali's ability to fight the time machine

Norton came to duty in pristine condition, and left virtually unmarked. His left eye was slightly swollen, but that was all. The only pain was in his heart

The same pain was with Ali — internal, not external — and he knew his vast army of supporters felt it with him

Bells hung over Norton's head as he entered the ring, his blue gown emblazoned on the back with a roaring lion. It was an apt motif — there was no paper tiger about him

Ali should have known he was in for a hard night. He had to battle his way into the stadium through crowds of demonstrating off-duty policemen who are seeking a pay-rise, and of teenagers drawn like moths to the brilliantly lit Yankee Stadium, with its silver-grey walls and blue seats

Some call this dot on the map the toughest part of America — and for Ali, it almost was

Ali left Norton waiting in the ring for a few moments and came in staring at his challenger with glaring confidence. Pumping his right arm, he led the crowd in a chant of "Norton must fall"

As referee Arthur Mercante started the first round action, Ali came out talking to Norton, calling him "sucker" and slowly he began the long haul that the night was to become

Ali won that first round. It was six rounds, I felt, before he won another

By the third round, Norton was in hungry pursuit of the champion, landing the best punch so far — a vicious right hand that checked Ali's stride

Norton dug the right in at close-range. He swung it high and hard, and it was always there to nag at Ali

As they swung into the fifth round, Ali retreated to the ropes and stood there, arms up, for fully two minutes, taking all that Norton could hurl at him

It was the tactic which Ali used to wear down Foreman and after absorbing it all, Ali retaliated as if to say to Norton "You didn't hurt me"

In the sixth, Ali took time to listen open-mouthed to the crowd

continued on p 38

Sport builds character



They're happy after the IFA Shield final . . . Mohun Bagan and East Bengal players in a relaxed mood

IFA SHIELD

The giants share the spoils

THAT not a single worthwhile shot at goal was taken during the 90 minutes of the IFA Challenge Shield final on the Mohun Bagan ground in Calcutta is perhaps the best indication of the different nature of the latest East Bengal Mohun Bagan contest.

Mohun Bagan did not just appear the better organised side, they also had a territorial advantage for much of the game but in terms of chances created and wasted neither team deserved to win.

The 0-0 draw satisfied the supporters of both clubs. It gave Mohun Bagan, the League champions, the "double" and maintained their unbeaten season record. And though this time they were joint winners East Bengal's name will be engraved on the Shield for the fifth year in succession.

No other team has won the tournament even four times running. Mohun Bagan and East Bengal had been joint winners in 1961, too, but then at least there had been a replay of the final. It was strange that the competition rules this year did not even stipulate the playing of extra time in the event of a drawn final, let alone a replay.

A heavy downpour began as the match commenced, and with rain falling for most of the time, the pitch was soggy though the ground was better in the second half. Yet, despite these ready-made conditions for heavy tackling, the match—efficiently supervised by ex-Olympian S. S. Hakeem, now quite bald—was played in the best spirit. In truth, it lacked much of the tension one usually associates with East Bengal Mohun Bagan tussles.

The best scoring opportunities of the tie both came, and were lost, in the second session. East Bengal's substitute winger Kesto Mitra sent in an on-the-ground centre from the left which Ranjit Mukherjee had only to drive home from close—but failed to connect. At the other end Akbar moved into position to shoot past the East Bengal custodian, but just a second's delay and the chance was gone. These, in fact, were the only really goal-worthy chances in the whole match.

The afternoon's finest shot was in the earlier half—a left-footer from the top right corner of the penalty box by Mohun Bagan's star goalkeeper Bha. Mathur. The ball, low and well, went six long just high

and wide of the far post but it was a good effort by the dusky winger, who played well enough in the wet conditions—he does not exactly relish. And when Mohun Bagan were pressing in the closing stages of the game, East Bengal goalkeeper Biswajit Das made a fine job of gathering a potentially dangerous Subhas Bhowmik centre.

Das had much more to do than his opposite counterpart, Santosh Bose—thrust into Mohun Bagan's regular side because of an injury to skipper Prasanta Mitra—but though he acquitted himself well, his goalkeeper's volleys were rather poor and the ball almost always went to a Mohun Bagan player.

The mainstay of the East Bengal rearguard was Sudhir Karmakar. He had been injured early in East Bengal's semi-final versus Goa XI, but in the final he played a cool and near-perfect game as stopper, making ample amends for his poor showing in the teams' Eden Garden's encounter in July. East Bengal's other star was the young left back, Shyamal Banerjee. Playing with a bandage around his head injury, Banerjee performed wonderfully well, displaying very good anticipation.

With their goalkeeper rarely under pressure and their penultimate line, ably marshalled by Pradip Chowdhury, both steady and enterprising (particularly Dilip Palit), Mohun Bagan were oftener on the offensive. They worked out their moves better, spreading the attack along the wings, but their

Run—for
your life

forwards could not display the extra sting necessary to break through more than on the odd occasion. Linkman Prasun Banerjee, who has had a very fine season, began in splendid style but faded away in the second half.

The final climaxed an unspectacular tournament. Of the outstation sides, Hyderabad's City College Old Boys showed an intelligent approach but Mohun Bagan should have beaten them by a wider margin than 3-1. Goa XI, under the guidance of ex-international goalkeeper Peter Thangaraj, were scarcely a representative side but they even so knocked out the Aryans in reaching the semis. Goalkeeper Eugenio Cardozo impressed as a good prospect.

Mohammedan Sporting's withdrawal through player trouble put George Telegraph through to the last four for the first time ever, but Behala Youth's showing was more remarkable. This local second division side showed determination and a commonsense approach in knocking out a district team, a couple of minor outstation sides, and Eastern Railway (one of the better premier League teams), before East Bengal beat them 5-2—but not before Behala had given the big club quite a shock, leading 2-1 at half-time.

To come back to the Shield final, one's abiding memory may be the extreme preponderance of throw-ins (there were also five foul throws) in the match. Two days before the final, there had been a veterans' exhibition tie on the same ground, and many observers



A tense moment at the East Bengal goalmouth... Chatterjee heads away from Bhowmik and Habib



East Bengal goalkeeper Biswajit Das collects safely from Habib as Akbar looks on. Pics. Nikhil

commented that the moves and general approach of the ex-players were (despite the obvious slowness) of a better class than what was displayed by the best of the city's soccer stars.

But when one considers that last year Mohun Bagan were shattered 5-0 in this match, it is quite a remarkable recovery for them to

have performed as well as they have done this season. Coach P. K. Banerjee can claim some credit for this, certainly, but he had some very good players at his disposal. Still, as the Shield final showed, they were not good enough to achieve another victory over East Bengal.

—SUBROTO SIKKAR



George Telegraph's M. Bhat tachingjee clears away from Habib and Bhowmik

A healthy mind
in a healthy body

MEET THE KIWIS...



Glenn Turner (captain),
29, 32 Tests 2521 runs



John Parker (vice-captain),
26, 15 Tests, 624 runs



Mark Burgess, 32,
30 Tests, 1628 runs



John Morrison, 29,
11 Tests, 564 runs



Andy Roberts, 29, 2 Tests



Lance Cairns, 27, 3 Tests,
90 runs, 4 wkts



Richard Hadlee, 25
9 Tests, 200 runs,
32 wkts



Richard Collinge, 30, 28
Tests, 385 runs, 93 wkts



Murray Parker, 28, right-
hand batsman



Robert Anderson, 28,
right-hand batsman



David O'Sullivan, 32,
5 Tests, 30 runs
5 wkts.



Warren Lees, 24,
wicketkeeper



Geoffrey Howarth, 25,
2 Tests, 68 runs, 1 wk



Peter Petherick, 34,
off-spinner



Gary Troup, 24, left arm
fast-medium



Mr. Chapple (manager).

SPORTSWEEK, October 10, 1976

THE ART OF CRICKET

ALL bowlers deteriorate under a well-planned, intelligent attack and much of the enjoyment of batting comes from the battle of wits and the thwarting of a bowler's plans

Any batsman who has achieved international status should be able to visualise the position of every fieldman just as though he were looking at them on a radar screen. He should be able to shut his eyes and know precisely the location of fine-leg, third-man and so on.

In no other way can he concentrate on the ball and still give free reign to the art of placing the ball to the maximum advantage.

It is so simple to pull a short ball to square leg. But if there is a man on the fence square, how much more satisfaction can be gained by deliberately pulling it finer to try and pick up four.

Cricket is like chess—the move and counter-move. I would often deliberately play a ball to a certain position just to try and keep a fieldman there. Why? Because I didn't want him shifted to a position which would have saved four instead of one.

There are dozens of shots played in any long innings which can scarcely be described as drives, pulls, cuts, or by any authentic name. They may range from a deflection down the gully with a perpendicular bat to a pat towards cover for a single or a push towards mid-on.

I have, in the following pages, only described those strokes which are clearly and easily definable.

Batting is a fascinating art and worth all the study you can give it.

The grip

Having dealt with certain generalities, I now turn to the important details of the actual playing side of cricket.

The first requisite of any batsman is to get his grip right, and I recently saw an interesting method of attaining it.

A splendid coach was asked by a lad what was the correct grip. The coach told the boy to lay his bat face down on the ground with the handle pointing towards him and then to stoop down and pick it up with two hands as though proposing to use it.

The boy did and was immediately told that was his proper grip.

Try it out and see what result you get.

For my part I refuse to be dog-

matic about one's grip, because I believe various holds can be satisfactory. So much depends on the batsman's methods.

My normal grip left just over an inch of the bat handle showing below the right hand and perhaps an inch above the left hand with the gloves touching.

Notice that the inverted V formed by the thumb and first finger of the right hand is straight in line with the insertion of the handle down the back of the blade. The bottom hand will be an inch or two from the shoulder of the blade.

The position of my left hand is what might be termed, in golfing parlance, a slightly shut face. I think it helps to keep the ball on

by SIR DONALD
BRADMAN

the ground, especially when playing on-side strokes.

However, I unhesitatingly admit that the left wrist could be more towards the front than mine and be perfectly correct. W. G. Grace and Sir Jack Hobbs both favoured this latter method.

Denis Compton was rather half-way between what I might term the "Hobbs grip" and mine.

The Hobbs grip is very common amongst Englishmen, whereas one would seldom find a player with his left wrist more behind the blade than mine.

The two hands should be very close to one another—in fact just about touching when the batting gloves are on.

I refuse to condemn an unorthodox grip just because it is different. The use of wrist and arms and the method of stroke production cannot be stereotyped.

One fine Sheffield Shield cricketer had his right hand so far down

the handle that his index finger actually went along the back of the blade. As you might expect, he had good defensive control and played strokes behind the wicket splendidly but his driving was incompetent.

Then I remember a Test match batsman whose two hands were very high up on the handle. This position gave rise to a high back lift and a flourish. He was a good driver but was always prone to snick the ball into slips. I distrust that position against a lifting or swinging ball.

Although I did not see Victor Trumper bat, the fact is that he held the bat very high.

There is much to be said in favour of keeping the two hands in the happy medium position for maximum power and control.

The left-hand position must remain firm irrespective of the attempted stroke, but the right hand may be allowed to move down the blade for greater control in defensive strokes.

As evidence of the difference of the left-hand position of great players in playing defensively, I cannot do better than cite the case of Peter May and Compton.

May played forward defensively and got the left wrist behind the handle. Compton kept his left wrist well in front of the bat handle.

Peter May's method suited me, but Denis Compton's wonderful record dares us to question the efficiency of his.

Sometimes I dropped the hand down when square cutting or in pulling the ball, but the movement must be so natural that the player is scarcely conscious of it, for one has little time to think where his hands are when moving into a shot.

Whatever you do be comfortable and natural and make control your guiding star.

Publishers, Rupa & Co.
(to be continued)

SPORTING SAM by Reg Wootton



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Pakistan have the edge

by B. B. MAMA

THE New Zealand tour of Pakistan and India will provide the 1976-77 cricket season with an early start to the extremely crowded programme of 22 Test matches among six Test-playing countries.

When the Kiwis depart in early December after playing six Tests in Pakistan and India, England will then take over. They will play a five-Test series in India from December 1976 to February 1977. At about the same time, Pakistan will travel to Australia to play three Tests there at Adelaide (December 24-29), Melbourne (January 1-6) and Sydney (January 14-19). Pakistan will then proceed to West Indies for a full five-Test series from February to April 1977, whilst Australia will go over to New Zealand for two Tests there at Christchurch (February 18-23) and Auckland (February 25-March 2).

The busy season will be climaxed by the Centenary Test in mid-March 1977 between England and Australia at Melbourne, marking 100 years of Test cricket. At the end of this century span, a grand total of 303 Tests would be reached by the time the new English season opens in April 1977 with a full "Ashes" tour.

Fifteen Tests have so far been played between Pakistan and New Zealand, Pakistan winning five Tests as against a solitary win by New Zealand, with nine drawn.

The two countries first met at Karachi on October 13, 1955, the home team registering an innings victory, thanks to Zulfiqar Ahmed who took 11 for 79 — still the best-ever match bowling figures on either side in the series.

Pakistan also won the next Test at Lahore, running up a record total of 561 — still the highest ever in the series, with Imtiaz Ahmed scoring 209 — till today the highest individual score in any Pak-NZ Test.

The drawn third Test at Dacca was notable for the fact that New Zealand were shot out for 70 — the lowest ever total so far on either side in the series.

When the two countries met again in January-February 1965 on New Zealand soil, the series proved sterile and abortive, all three Tests being drawn.

About five weeks later, on completion of an eventful tour of India, New Zealand went to Pakistan in March-April 1965 and lost a three-

Test rubber by the margin of 20, the outstanding performances coming in the drawn Test at Lahore, with New Zealand recording a total of 482 for 6 declared — their best-ever in any Test against Pakistan, and Barry Sinclair scoring 130 — the highest Kiwi score in any Test in the series.

New Zealand achieved the distinction of winning the 1969 series



Mushtaq Mohammad (left) and Glenn Turner, the rival captains

10, defeating Pakistan in the second Test at Lahore. Perhaps the most exciting result in a Test between the two countries was in the drawn third and final Test of this series at Dacca, with the Kiwis staging a heroic rearguard action to stave off defeat. When the eighth wicket in New Zealand's second innings fell, they were only 84 ahead with almost five hours still left for play. But Bob Cunis at No. 10 — a bowler rather than a batsman — held out like grim death with Mark Burgess for nearly two hours, adding 96 for the ninth wicket — still a series record, and Pakistan were ultimately left only 140 minutes to score 184 to win. They couldn't do it.

In February 1973, when the two countries last met, Pakistan won a Test on New Zealand soil for the first and only time, and thus claimed the rubber. The architects of Pakistan's innings victory at Dunedin were Mushtaq Mohammad with 201 — the highest Pakistani score

in any Test on New Zealand soil, adding 350 for the fourth wicket with Asif Iqbal — the highest partnership for Pakistan for any wicket-position in Tests, and Intikhab Alam with figures of 11 for 130 — the best bowling by Pakistan in any Test in New Zealand.

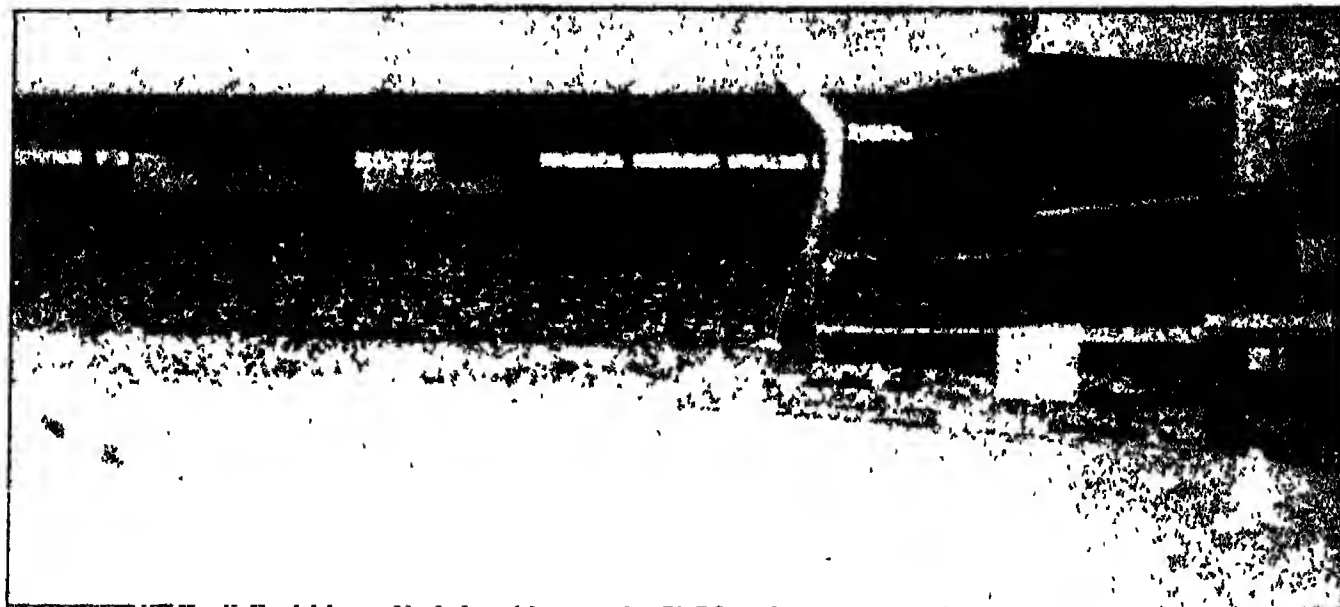
The 15th and last Test so far played in the series at Auckland in 1973 saw New Zealand establish



a new world record of 151 for the tenth wicket between Brian Hastings and Richard Collinge, and it also highlights the strange case of Rodney Redmond who scored a century on Test debut — the only player on either side in the series to perform the feat — and he has never again played for New Zealand.

Tour itinerary

- Oct 2 to 4, 1976 at Peshawar
- Oct 5 to 7 at Rawalpindi
- Oct 9, 10, 11, 13, 14 First Test at Lahore
- Oct. 16: one day match at Sialkot
- Oct 18 to 20 at Lyallpur
- Oct 23, 24, 25, 27, 28 Second Test at Hyderabad
- Oct 30, 31, Nov 1, 3, 4 Third Test at Karachi



The view across the sprawling Sir Leslie Wilson stand, and J. S. Hutcheon stand, the latter being the extensive Gabba members complex

Queensland Cricket Association is 100

Gabba—rich in memory

by RAY ROBINSON

AUSTRALIAN cricket is growing up. It's time we showed signs of maturity by giving up impudent references to Dr W. G. Grace's beard.

Also we should phase out disrespectful slants about the Father Time windvane on Lord's grandstand and Colonel Blimps in the pavilion's Long Room.

Queensland Cricket Association is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. Queensland is the second youngest of the five States competing for the Sheffield Shield, having been admitted 50 years ago. Western Australia is the youngest, a virile infant.

British troops had introduced cricket to India and South Africa in the 1790s but there was no trace of any match in Australia until 1861.

Former Australian skipper Ian Chappell will captain an Invitation XI on October 10 against Queensland, led by his brother Greg, the reigning Test captain.

In the new landscaped Woolloongabba Oval about the only thing that hasn't changed is the scoreboard. This informative structure has stood firm and the biggest Test sensations Australia has known.

I mean the first rush to the wicket's only the test, the uproar over no-balling of fast left hander Ian Meckiff and detectives being sent to the ground to guard him.

pure Colin Egar after a telephoned threat.

A writer entering from Vulture Street (an appropriate approach for a critic, some say) often has a presentiment that sensation is lurking somewhere handy. It's a place where the action is. Press seats above the players' rooms give reporters and broadcasters the best view of any Test ground in Australia and unexcelled in the world, as is the outer crowd's view from the Clem Jones stand.

Before the transformation from 1946's somewhat primitive surroundings Brisbane cricket-goers were the first Australian crowd to see Ray Lindwall and Keith Miller bowl as a Test pair, controlled high voltage partnered by spasmodic lightning.

In Lindwall's fifth Brisbane Test, 1954 his first ball dismissed England's opener Reg Simpson. As Reg walked away a Melbourne critic asked how long did he bat. A scorecard said "One minute." When Ray heard of this he commented "Slowest ball I ever bowled."

Brisbane again had the first front-row view of Dennis Lillee and Jeff Thomson as they unhinged England's batting in 1974 with an awesome response to English fast bowlers' bouncers at tailenders.

Controlled high-voltage and spasmodic lightning again!

For bravado and belligerence, Tony Greig's century against the paralysing pair was the most exciting I ever saw in a Brisbane Test, without having the quality of Sir Gary Sobers' batting in 1960.

The best single-handed high-speed bowling I have seen on the Gabba pitch was by Wes Hall on a day when the West Indies had six Australians out for 92, far short of the 233 needed to win. Hall's opening stretch was so strenuous that captain Sir Frank Worrell had to give him a long rest before bringing him back for a final over of high drama—a catch, another dropped in a collision and two run-outs.

The most discerning appraisal I have heard of the quickest bowlers is by former Test allrounder Tom Veivers, now QCA secretary: "When everything fits into rhythm, Thomson can bowl the fastest ball, but Wes fired along more high-speed balls in an over."

The most trouble I ever saw pace bowling give a whole side had the New Zealanders struggling to survive to 100 against lefthanders Tony Dell and Geoff Dymock on the grassiest of all Gabba tracks in 1974. Pitching the ball in line with the stumps, Tony used his height, 6 ft 4 ins, and weight, 230 lb, to make it rear past the

torsos of the Kiwis whose bats thereupon looked all edge.

Making similar inroads, New Zealand pacemen had five Queenslanders out for about 30. I'd have bet nobody could make 100 on the strip, yet I'd have lost if there'd been a taker. After a hard battle to survive, captain Greg Chappell lifted rival skipper Bevan Congdon's first ball over the sight-screen and went close to 100 in a session after tea. Next morning Greg sped on to 169 in a match in which the other 29 wickets lost averaged only about a dozen runs apiece. Greg's was the most superb innings I ever saw on the Gabba.

Beaten in two days when Dell totalled 12 wickets, the Kiwis insisted on the pitch being cropped before they agreed to play a one-day game against Queensland on Sunday. Queensland not only got the mower working but rested Dell.

Umpire Egar's calling of four balls in Meckiff's only over against South Africa in 1963 angered many in the crowd. Their repeated demonstrations against the umpire showed the crowd's sympathy with a bowler disbarred after many umpires had passed his delivery and their dislike of seeing authority enforced on an unconforming individual.

Some called for captain Richie Benaud to try Meckiff from the other end, where Brisbane umpire Lou Rowan had charge. We have since learnt from Rowan's book, *The Umpire's Story*, that he would also have ruled the left-hander's action illegal.

After rumours that an incensed fan might shoot at Egar, wicket-keeper Wally Grout waved his glove to get Colin to stand deeper at square-leg. Wal's mock explanation was that he himself did not want to be in the line of fire!

In their understandable disappointment at non-selection of Malcolm Francke for the Test, some Brisbane barrackers tarnished their

reputation by hooting South Australian leg-spinner Terry Jenner.

Through a span of 40 years I have known no place to equal Queensland in producing class wicketkeepers — Don Tallon, Wally Grout, Lew Cooper and John Maclean. Tallon was as perfect in style as he was skilful in catching and stumping. Besides setting the Australian Test record, Wal won 111 bates from English captain Ted Dexter. It beats me why Maclean has not accompanied Rod Marsh on tours of England since his success touring New Zealand.

The best fielding I recall on the Gabba was by Australia after Richie Benaud lost his first toss in 1958. Its excellence helped the toss-losers take the initiative from England. After one spectacular session the Australians honoured Harvey and O'Neill by standing back to let the superb pair lead the side off the field.

That was the Test in which Trevor Bailey, the one-string violin of England's batting orchestra, stayed in for the slowest 50 in Test history. Up in a somnolent pressbox Ron Roberts asked England's scorer: "When did Bailey come in, George?" George Duckworth: "At 2.30." Ron: "Yes, but which day?"

People who were not present sometimes take sides on controversial points. An English reviewer of my book on captains, *On Top Down Under*, scolds me because my chapter about Bradman does not mention his "not walking out when caught" at the Gabba in 1946. As a witness, I could be sure of only one thing — that second slip caught the ball cleanly chest-high. Nobody in the press seats could tell whether the bat squeezed an off-side yorker into the ground (as Sir Don said) or whether the ball touched bat on the way up (as slip fielders thought, but not the umpire).



The lavish Brisbane Cricketers Club can be seen behind the spreading trees . . . this is cricket Brisbane style.

STATISTICIANS CORNER

by B. B. MAMA

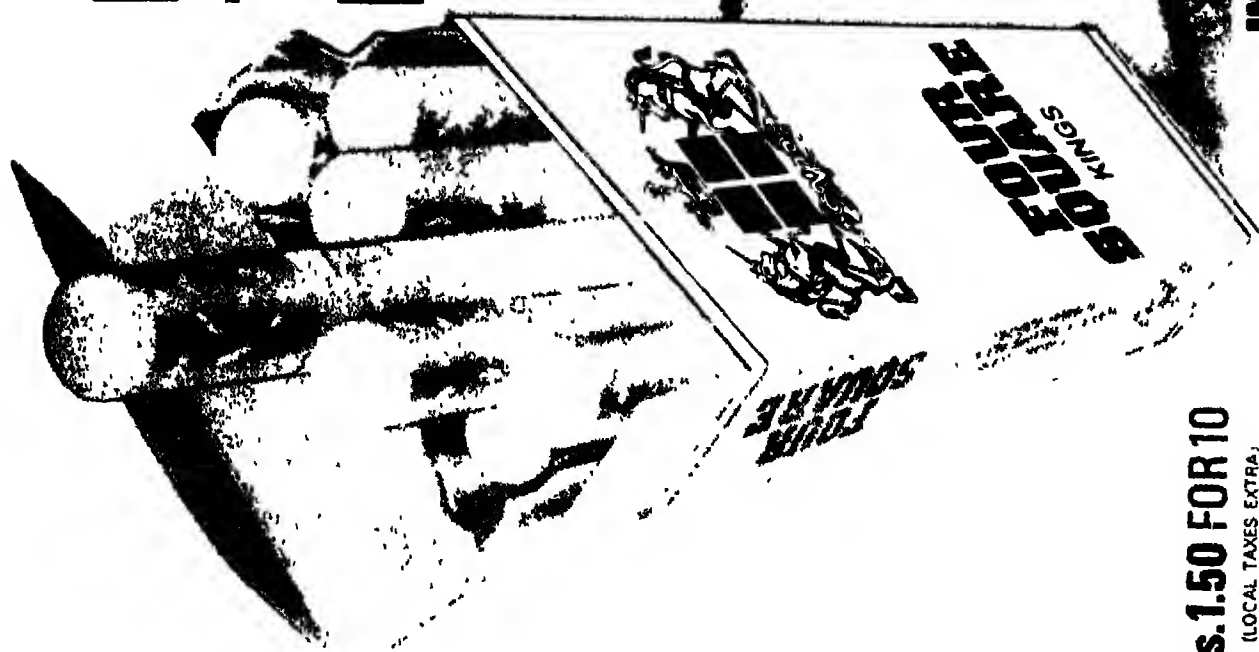
MADAN LAL, S.

v England	2	4	—	11	7	2.75	—	—	1	—	4.18	19	18*	2	94.00	—	—	2.56
v West Indies	6	11	3	257	55*	42.12	—	1	1	—	181	16	20.2	6	31.66	—	—	4.22
v New Zealand	3	5	2	41	27	13.66	—	—	—	—	77.0	1*	26	8	33.00	1	—	5.134
	11	20	5	309	55*	20.60	—	1	—	—	16.49	32	—	16	40.8*	1	—	5.134

PATEL, B. P.

v England	2	4	—	10	5	2.50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
v West Indies	6	10	4	349	115*	58.16	1	1	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
v New Zealand	3	5	—	109	81	21.80	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	11	19	4	468	115*	31.20	1	2	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

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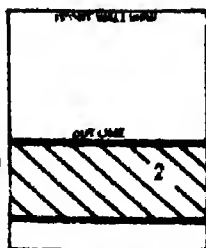
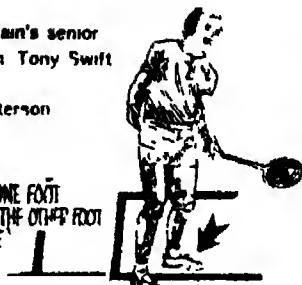
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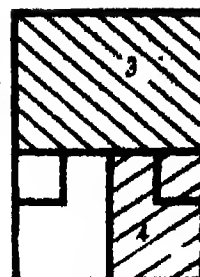
LINTAS-FSK 23-926

Words by Britain's senior national coach Tony Swift
Techniques
by Bryan Patterson

KEEP AT LEAST ONE FOOT
INSIDE THE BOX, THE OTHER FOOT
CAN BE ANYWHERE



2. IF THE BALL
WHEN STRUCK HITS
THE FRONT WALL
ON OR BELOW THE
CUT, BUT ABOVE
THE TIN IT IS
A SINGLE FAULT.



3. IF THE BALL ON
REBOUNDS FROM THE FRONT
WALL HITS THE FLOOR ON OR
IN FRONT OF THE SHORT LINE
IT IS A SINGLE FAULT.

4. SIMILARLY IF THE BALL
BOUNCES IN THE SAME BACK
QUARTER THAT THE SERVER
SERVED FROM IT IS A SINGLE
FAULT.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

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IT is important for all squash players, particularly beginners, that having learnt the service, to know the rules which govern this aspect of the game.

Four ways in which a single fault can be served are highlighted.

The first is the foot fault. If the

server has one foot inside the service box when striking the ball, it is not a foot fault. But if one foot or part of a foot touches any line forming the box, then a foot fault is served.

Other ways are the ball hitting the front wall above the tin but on or below the cut rebounding

from the front wall on or in front of the short line; and if the ball bounces back in the same quarter as the server.

Any combination of the above faults and the receiver, if he wishes may take the ball, making the service good.

VOLLEYBALL

Coming out of isolation

VOLLEYBALL is a sport suited for our people and in which we have shown that we could excel. Hence, it deserves to be encouraged by all, particularly the government.

For long, however, the game had suffered in this country because of some people, who were well entrenched in top posts of the Volleyball Federation of India, and because of the polemics and petty feggery in which rival officials were engaged in. Because of these self-seekers our players had been denied the opportunities of taking part in international tournaments abroad.

After eight long years of isolation, our players took part in an international tournament for the first time in 1974 when they competed in the Tehran Asian Games. We only finished fifth in the Asian Games, behind Japan, South Korea, China and Iran, but the performances of our team were heartwarming, considering the players' lack of international experience. Our team even ran Japan, the world champions, close.

For India to regain glory in this game — we were tops in the Asian Games in 1955 — our players must be given the opportunities of taking part in international tournaments as often as possible. The Volleyball Federation of India (headed by M. R. Krishna) happily is keen on giving our players such opportunities.

The VFI, at its executive committee meeting held at New Delhi, decided to send an Indian team

for the pre-world championship Asian zone tournament to be held in Hong Kong in the fourth week of November, this year, according to K. Murugan, VFI joint secretary. The team's participation in this tourney, of course, depends on government approval, he said.

The top two teams in this tournament would qualify for the World Championships in Japan next year. Since Japan, as the host nation, had already qualified, the fight for the two qualifying berths should be between South Korea, China and India. Murugan said. He felt that India might find South Korea tough to beat but could beat China. And a victory over China could take India to the Worlds.

In preparation for the pre-world, a coaching camp is to be held at Patiala. Twenty-five players who were selected after the last national championship at Tiruchi and a promising young player each from the member state associations would be invited to attend the camp at the end of which a 14 member team would be selected.

A decision to send four referees to attend the referees' course to be held at Kuwait during the Arab Championships there in December this year, was also taken.

A referee each from the four zones would be chosen, he said. He said he had been chosen to officiate in the Arab Championships.

India v China at Tehran Asian. We lost then but there's no reason why we can't win in future





Interpub/AM/15/76

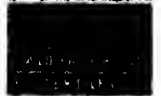
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Pele: The Master and His Method

DRIBBLING

Adaptation Ken Taylor

Dribbling Styles

Dribbling is the most individual, the most personal of soccer's skills. Every player has his own style, his own way of doing it.



To achieve the sensitive touch needed for dribbling, most players control the ball with the front of the foot—the area near the base of the toes on both the inside and the outside surfaces.



Dribbling in the way means that the ball is usually a short distance ahead of the dribbler.



The foot should make contact with the ball at or near below the horizontal center line.



Pele frequently dribbles by controlling the ball with the large flat area further back on the inside of the foot, keeping the ball between his foot rather than ahead of them.

Pele is the leader of Pepsi Cola's international youth soccer programme which includes a near £100,000 sponsorship of the English Schools F.A. under-16 competition.



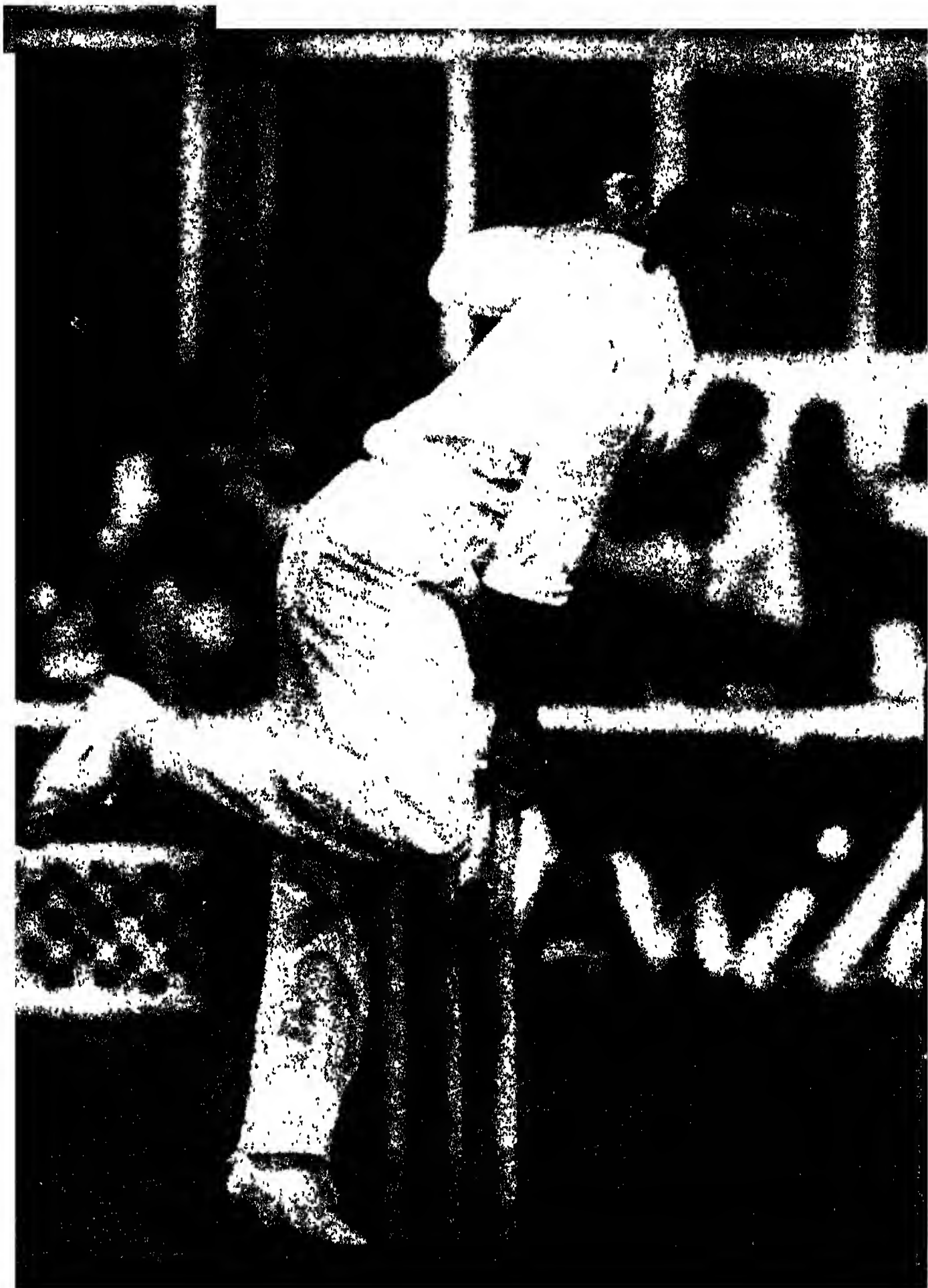
Pele in his dribbling stance: ball nestling between his feet, body crouched forward with knees and head over the ball.

Shielding the Ball

Shielding or screening is the technique of using the body to prevent an opponent from tackling.



The dribbler plays the ball with the foot furthest away from the opponent and turns his body so that it forms a barrier between the opponent and the ball.



Sportraits

mini-portraits of maxi-stars ...

GEOFF COPE has a debt to pay. Before the owlish Yorkshire off-spinner at last puts flesh on his youthful dreams of hazy afternoons in Bombay and Madras this winter, he has set aside a day, and perhaps a morning, to spend with the man who has made it possible.

He will seek out legendary Johnny Wardle and say "You gave me back the dreams. Now help me make them work."

Cope's obligation to the quirkish, rebellious, and often sublime old spinner is not as excessive as it may seem.

He explains "When I heard that I was going to India I was so delighted I gave a great roar and then started making phone calls. I was very sure who would receive the first three."

"They came in strict order. First my wife June. Then my dad. Then Johnny Wardle."

"You see when I was out of the

Cope recalls "I always envied Ray his control, he made things so simple, so logical. The problem came when you had to put it all into practice."

"I shall be talking to Ray, too, before I go to India. You listen to that man for an hour and you get stuff you would never find in a hundred coaching manuals."

But Wardle is the man who guided him out of trouble; who refashioned that questionable jerky style so profoundly that when the Lord's cameras appeared again earlier this summer Cope knew that it was merely to clear the way to international cricket.

As English cricket's chief wicket-taker this summer he goes to the Indian shrine of spin-bowling with the Wardle philosophy deeply etched.

Says Cope "When the going gets tough in India certain phrase of

GEOFF COPE

by JAMES LAWTON

game three years ago I was so low, so broken, I couldn't even see myself fighting to get back into county cricket.

"Johnny Wardle didn't give me advice. He just tore into me. He said 'You can still play for England. You're feeling sorry, for yourself, you've got into bad habits'."

"He went on to say that he wasn't interested in spending time with anyone who wasn't showing enough interest in getting off the floor."

"And then when I convinced him that I had it in me to fight through he started to coach me — and it was a bit like being reborn."

Cope will also ring Ray Illingworth, a fact which will come as something less than a shock to anyone who witnessed his early days in the Yorkshire side.

Now, at 29, Cope talks maturely about his struggles. But before the axe fell on his doubtful action he was a young man riddled with doubts.

And Illingworth was an idol; a man of serenity and control.

Johnny Wardle will inevitably be uppermost in my mind."

"Most of all I will remember his keyword, which is patience."

"Patience to keep the pressure on, patience to remind yourself that certain batsmen will get themselves out and that the crucial thing is to keep a line, keep up the pressure."

"I suppose what I feel now is a sort of great feeling of gratitude. It touches most strongly people like Wardle, Illingworth and, of course, Geoff Boycott."

"Geoff has his critics, but any one who has ever talked about cricket with him knows the strength of his feelings."

"People like him have guided me to that boyhood dream of an MCC tour against a lot of heavy odds."

"But more important than that, they have brought me back into the life of being a professional cricketer."

"Deep down I never really wanted more than that. The Taj Mahal and all that is just an incredible bonus."

Cricketers of the week — 19

BIRTHS

October 3: E. A. Hunte (W.I.) 1905, S. N. Bannerji (Ind) 1913, R. Lindwall (Aus) 1921.

October 4: R. T. D. Perks (Eng) 1911, B. L. d'Oliveira (Eng) 1931.

October 5: K. Srinivasan (Ind) 1929, M. L. Apte (Ind) 1932, D. R. Smith (Eng) 1934, R. M. Cowper (Aus) 1940.

October 6: G. Brown (Eng) 1887, M. S. Nichols (Eng) 1900, L. E. Favell (Aus) 1929, R. Renaud (Aus) 1930, A. W. Greig (Eng) 1946.

October 7: A. C. Russell (Eng) 1887, C. F. W. Allcott (N.Z.) 1896, K. S. Ranvirsinhji (Ind) 1919.

October 8: V. A. Holder (W.I.) 1945.

DEATHS

October 4: E. H. Hendren (Eng) 1962.

October 6: F. T. Mann (Eng) 1964.

—K ISWARA DUTT

How much do you know?

by HOSEY MISTRY

- 1 Can a swimmer do the breast-stroke in a freestyle event?
- 2 How many substitutes are permitted during a game of hockey?
- 3 What is the lowest weight class in Olympic freestyle wrestling?
a) Featherweight, b) Flyweight or c) Lightweight?
- 4 In squash, can a point be scored on your opponent's service?
- 5 Is a boxer, down for a count of seven, allowed to resume when he is ready to do so?
- 6 A ball from a fast bowler rebounds off the wicketkeeper's pads and is picked up by the slip fielder, who passes it to cover point on its way back to the bowler, while the batsmen take one run. Is the run allowed?
- 7 In high jump can an athlete take-off with both feet?

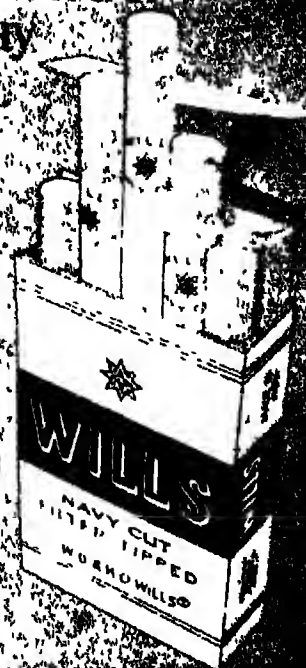
ANSWERS:

1. Yes, you can do any stroke in the freestyle event. 2. Two. 3. Flyweight. 4. No. 5. No. Whenever there is a knock down the boxer shall not continue until the referee reaches the count of eight. 6. No, it is a dead ball. 7. No, the take off has to be off one foot.

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KNOW YOUR STARS

MY parents belonged to Hyderabad where I was born in March, 1945. From there to Madras and a diploma in mechanical engineering from Central Polytechnic, Madras in 1963 and to ICF in July, 1964.

I have played for India 19 times, 13 times as captain. I represented India in the biennial World Championships in Yugoslavia (1965), Sweden (1967), West Germany (1969), Japan (1971 — captain), Yugoslavia (1973 — captain) and the last one at Calcutta in 1975.

I have led teams to the Commonwealth Championships in 1971 — Singapore, 1973 — Wales and 1975 — Australia. We won the silver at Wales and the bronze at Singapore and Australia. I also captained teams to Japan in 1970 and 1974 for the Asian Championships. Then, I skippered teams to Sri Lanka (1969), China (Afro-Asian 1971) and Nepal (Nepal Democracy 1974).

At home, I have played in 'Tests' against visiting teams from Czechoslovakia, Japan and South Korea — earning the distinction of being the captain in three of these series. I received the Arjuna Award in 1971.

I didn't have any ambition of becoming a table tennis player. We used to get an allowance of one rupee from our school — MCTM High School, whenever we took part in inter-school matches. This was the sole attraction which made me practice enough to make the school team. I suddenly found I could beat all the other players. I became Madras junior No. 1 in 1959 and retained this title in 1960.

I learnt and improved my game on my own. I didn't have any coach as such. In 1961, I became Madras No. 1. After that I took up the game seriously. I have been very particular about practice and devote two hours every evening to it. And even now I see to it that I don't miss a practice session. I don't do many physical exercises — only a few for body-flexibility.

Of course, I have benefitted immensely from my foreign trips. The most important lesson that I learnt, was during the World Championships in West Germany in 1969. I noticed that Schuler, a West German, was playing with an ordinary pimped rubber bat with a sandwich rubber on one side. When I asked him the reason he explained that the pimped surface gave better control in making backhand returns. I followed his advice and the very next year — in 1970 — I became the national

G. Jagannath



champion. In fact, from 1969 to 1973, I lost very few matches.

There are many matches I won't be able to forget. Most of them I played while assisting India in different team-championships. Against Singapore in 1971, I won all my three matches to give India a 5-3 victory and a bronze in the Commonwealth Championships. Then at Cardiff in 1973 I lost the first game to a Malaysian. It was the ninth match of the team-championship semi-final. I pulled myself together to win the next two games and the match, for a 5-4 win for India.

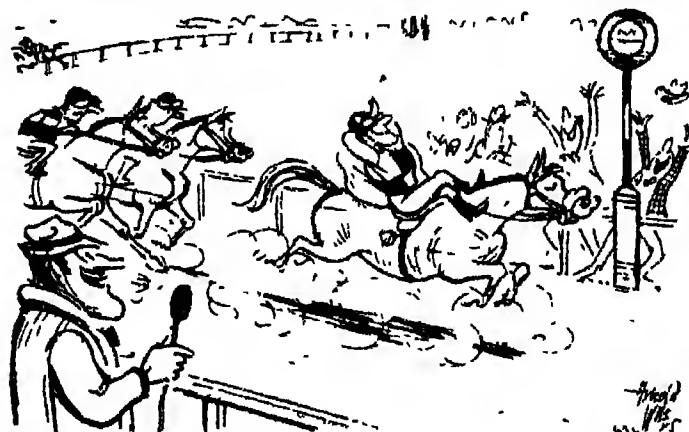
In another memorable match at Calcutta in 1971, I defeated the Asia No. 1 — Chou Sung Kuk of South Korea. This was in the international invitation tournament. We had shared the first four games and in the decider Chou led 20-17. He had an attack-oriented game. It was thus a see-saw battle between attack and defence. After many long rallies, I levelled the score at 20 and went on to win the match at 23-21.

I announced my retirement from international competition in 1975 after the Worlds at Calcutta. I realised that I had to make way for youngsters who deserve an early break to do better in future. But I will continue to take part in major tournaments and the nationals.

We have quite a few promising youngsters which means the game has a very bright future in the country. I think the introduction of prize money in tournaments will ensure keener competition. This will not only raise the standard of the game but will also attract more and more talent.

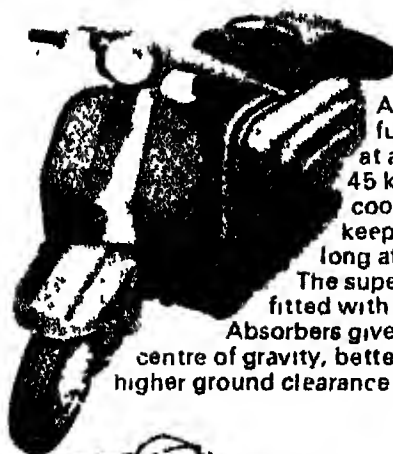
—JAVED AKHTAR

ALL IN THE GAME!



"And, as anticipated, a comfortable win for Lester Spigott on 'Whirlwind'."

SCOOT...

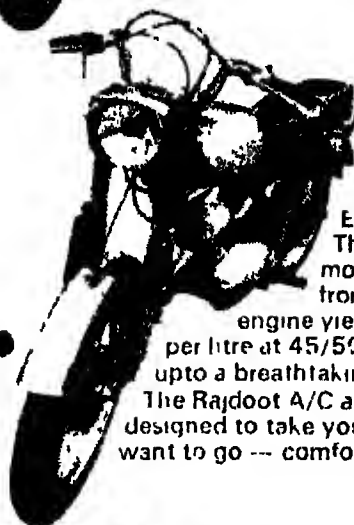


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Zonal round - up

NORTH

Prize money

tennis

in Chandigarh

CHANDIGARH

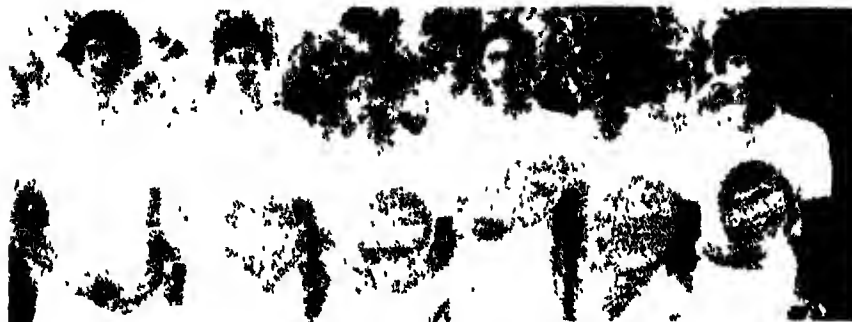
THE Chandigarh Lawn Tennis Association is organising North India's first prize money tennis here in the month of October. The All-India Lawn Tennis Association has approved October 18 to 24 as the dates for the competition.

In its efforts to popularise tennis in this part of the country, CLTA is making all-out efforts to bring top players like the Amritrai brothers, the Krishnans, the Mukherjee brothers, Shashi Menon, Premjit Lall and other promising stars.

The break up of the prize money of Rs 5,000 is: winners of men's singles (Rs 2,500), men's doubles (Rs 1,500), junior boys singles (Rs 500), junior boys doubles (Rs 300) and sub-junior boys singles (Rs 200).

The Chandigarh administration has drawn up an ambitious plan for the promotion of tennis. Formalities have been completed to start the construction of an open air tennis stadium with a seating capacity of 4,000 (as a part of Rs 8-lakh project) in the Zakir Rose Gardens. The stadium when completed, will form the nucleus of tennis activities. Already, the association has taken in hand coaching of youngsters in 8-14 age group. Promising youngsters will also be provided financial help to meet the cost of equipment, food and school fees etc.

--M P VERMA



The badminton team of D.A.V. College, Chandigarh won the Punjab University championships. From left, Parveen, Umang Sharma, V Chawla (captain), V Chopra, Sarat and Satyajit.

'Rashtrdoot' Puraskar



Basketball international Hanuman Singh, of Ajmer, has been adjudged Rajasthan's Sportsman of the Year 1975-76 by leading Hindi daily 'Rashtrdoot.' The committee to decide the award met in Jaipur (from left) B. C. Saxena, Sports Editor, Hindustan Times, Jasdev Singh, sports broadcaster, Khalid Ansari, Managing Editor, Sportsweek, Rakesh Sharma of 'Rashtrdoot,' V N Kak, president Rajasthan Sports Council and Ramakant Sharma, president, B.F.I.



Kamaljit



Surjit Singh

Meerut athletes shine

CHANDIGARH

MEEERUT athletes cornered glory in the All-India Jarnal Singh Memorial Cross Country races which concluded here recently.

Surjit Singh, an army man from Meerut, took an early lead in the 145 km race for men and main-

tained it till the finish. He completed the race in 14 minutes 47.4 seconds. The second and third places were bagged by Bahal Singh and Balbir Singh, both from Meerut.

L S Bal, the coach of the Meerut contingent, was a proud man when his trainee, Murlidhar, 16½ years old, won the distinction of scoring a double. The young chap won the 5 km race for boys under 17 years and the 10 km race for boys under 19 years.

Kamaljit of Gurdaspur Dist won the 3 km race for women in 13 minutes 42 seconds. Abinash of Rupnagar Dist also scored a double winning the 800 metres and 3 km races for girls under 16 years.

Though only a few teams from outside Punjab took part in the races, it was evident from the number of participants that the scheme of the Punjab Sports Department to encourage mass participation of athletes, was bearing fruit.

--M P VERMA

Zonal round-up

EAST

Calcutta

tennis

THE Calcutta Hard Court Tennis Championships saw the men's 'double crown' being annexed for the third time in the current local season. This time it was achieved by 23 year old Chaudip Mukerjee — now less skimmer than he was before his marriage

earlier this year — who repeated his 1972 singles triumph over Akhtar Ali (15 years his senior), who had also returned from Europe just a couple of weeks back.

The wily Ali had eliminated Premjit Lall in the semi-finals, but Mukerjee took the initiative early, fought back after Ali was on the verge of making a return break in the first set, and hit some potent forehand cross court winners besides displaying his usual neat backhand in winning 6-2, 6-2. The singles finalists then joined forces to win the pairs event beating I all and Jaidip Mukerjee 6-4, 6-3.

However, the biggest cheer of the afternoon was reserved for

Gita Kumar who beat Mrs. Einy 6-4, 3-6, 7-5, in a match twice interrupted (as was the doubles final) by rain, to claim the women's open singles title. Miss Kumar, who will be 13 in December and who is the daughter of former Davis Cup captain Naresh Kumar, though a bit erratic covered the court well. She had also won the girls' Under-18 singles beating Mrs Einy's daughter Vida, but in the Under-14 final the same Miss Einy surprisingly turned the tables on Miss Kumar!

A total of 662 matches were played in the tournament, which included separate events for markers and ball-boys.

—SUBROTO SIRKAR



Manabendra Choudhry receiving his award from Sumit Dutt

C. S. Triumph

• KULTI

THE Central Sports Association of Chittaranjan annexed the Gopinath Memorial Football Shield tournament defeating ISW Sports Club of Burdwan by three goals to two in the final.

The first goal was scored by left winger Sibabrata Mazumdar of Chittaranjan in the 15th minute with a solo attempt. The Chittaranjan strikers came into their own after the breather, and Sibabrata Mazumdar scored again. Amitava Hazra of Burdwan reduced the margin and levelled the scores soon after. But Sata Rao of Chittaranjan netted the match winner. Eight teams participated in the tournament.

N G P



From left, Linda Furtado (basketball), Surajit Sen-gupta (football) and Subroto Guha (cricket) after receiving the West Bengal Sports Journalists' Awards for 1975-76

To popularise hockey...

WITH the object of propagating and popularising hockey, the Youth Khalsa Club organised a five-a-side tournament which was played on Khalsa High School ground. The tournament was dedicated in the memory of Harcharan Singh 'Baba' and Sukhdarshan Singh, two eminent players of Bengal.

Fourteen teams consisting of senior as well as schoolboys participated in the inaugural year. In the final, Bagdevi Athletics Club beat five Men Army by 6-4 goals.

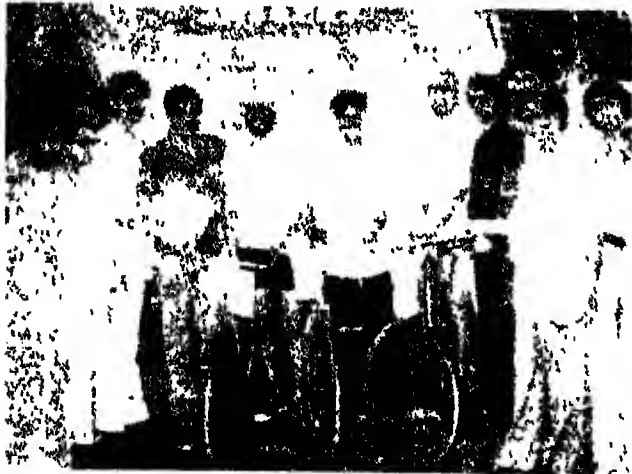
Keshav Dutt, former Olympian, graced the occasion and gave away the prizes.

Karmakar honoured

A POLL was conducted by GARE-MATH sports weekly, Calcutta among readers to elect the best footballers of 1976. Readers of West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Assam casted their votes and the results were:

Goal: Shivaji Banerjee (Aryans), Left back: Shyamal Banerjee (East Bengal), Stoppers: Subroto Bhattacharya and Pradip Chowdhury (both Mohun Bagan), Halves: Prasun Banerjee (Mohun Bagan) and Gautam Sarkar (East Bengal), Forwards: Ulaganathan (Mohun Bagan), Habib (Mohun Bagan), Shyam Thapa (East Bengal), Left-footed (Mid. Sporting): Young talent: Prasanta Banerjee (East Bengal). Coach: Achyut Banerjee (Kidderpur). Best defender of 70's: Sudhir Karmakar (East Bengal).

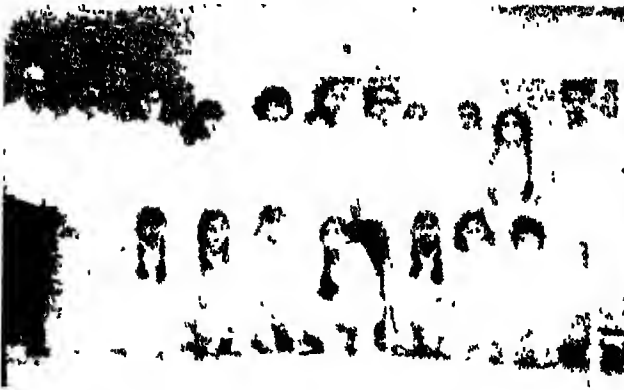
The awards will be distributed shortly.



Santacruz Jayceers arranged an 18 km road cycle race for youths in Bombay. President Ganesh Rane (black shirt) with the winners (from left) Rajendra Singh, first, Ashok Khate, second and Jina Solanki, third



Viju Todankar, captain of Kandivli C.A. receiving the Cosmopolitan Cricket Shield from chief guest Sunil Gavaskar in Bombay. Kandivli won it for the third year in succession



Madhya Pradesh won the Central Zone women's cricket title for the third year in succession, defeating Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh at Allahabad recently



Ameeta Kulkarni and Vivek Divekar, of Scottish Orphanage won the girls' team championship in the Bombay Inter-School badminton. They receive the trophy from Malati Tambe Vaidya



Ravindra Bukkam (standing, centre) organiser of the Bukkam's single-wicket cricket tournament at Curchorem in Goa with the winner, runner-up and the best fielders in SW's Funtab T-shirts, presented to them



Niraj Bajaj won the Khar Gymkhana, Bombay, Open Table Tennis singles title, defeating Manjit Dua. The women's title was claimed by Kalavati Seetharam, who beat Vyoma Shah

Zonal round-up **SOUTH**

MADRAS

MADRAS may have a giant composite indoor stadium in a few years' time. M A M Ramaswamy, president of the Tamil Nadu Tennis Association and of the Indian Hockey Federation, said recently that the TNTA would sincerely endeavour to get a composite stadium, which could be used for tennis, table tennis, volleyball, basketball, billiards etc., in the city with help and support from the State Government and industrial concerns and with the cooperation of other sports associations. He said this idea could become a reality in five years, if not in a year or two.

Ramaswamy said this at a function

Sunder steals the show

SUNDER of State Police stole the show in the Tamil Nadu State aquatics championship at the IIT pool here recently and thereby proved a point that sturdy lads of the fisherfolk community could be moulded into fine swimmers.

Sunder, a member of a fisherman family of Trichy, who was brought into competitive swimming by J B Joseph, a former India athlete, three years ago, won the individual championship for men. He won the 100m and 200m, 400m and 1,500m freestyle events and starred in the Police team's victory in the medley relay. Nineteen-year-old Sunder was mainly responsible in the Police claiming the team championship with 72 points. His time for the 1,500 metres — 21m 12.5 secs — was 1 min 55.5 secs better than teammate Stephen's State mark.

T G Chandrika (Vidyodaya H.S.) won the women's individual honours, emerging the best in the 100m freestyle, 100m breaststroke and 100m butterfly events and finishing runner-up to Radhika (Otters Club) in the 100m backstroke.

—SW Correspondent

SOCCKER - mad Visakhapatnam hosted the second Visakha Trophy soccer tournament. Thirty-two teams took part in the event which drew huge crowds. Hyderabad Telephones beat their city-mates South Central Railway 2-0 in the final and lifted the trophy.

—A P KUMAR

Indoor stadium at Madras

tion got up by the TNTA to felicitate Dilip Bose and M V G Appa Rao, the newly elected secretary and treasurer, respectively, of the All India Lawn Tennis Association. When Bose, in his speech, said that, since the Grand Prix tennis tournament of India was always held in November when it invariably rained in Madras, the city could stage this tournament only if it had a covered stadium. Ramaswamy was prompt in coming out with an assurance that his association would do the needful in this regard.

Ramaswamy is a man with the midas touch. He was the man behind the well-organised 1973 East Zone Davis Cup final between India and Australia at the Chepauk and the Rene Frank international hockey tourney at the Nehru Stadium early this year. Last year when

the TNTA planned to stage a World Championship of Tennis tournament in Madras, he moved the Madras Race Club for a special race and netted a substantial amount towards this purpose. Ramaswamy can be expected to launch this gigantic scheme soon and to present to Madras a covered stadium that it badly needs. As a tribute to his effort and enterprise, the stadium could well be named 'MAM' Stadium.

(It is reliably learnt now that the TNTA has approached the Madras Corporation to convert that part of the Egmore Stadium where there are tennis courts now. It has submitted a blue print with provision for two tennis courts. The TNTA is hopeful that the Corporation would do the needful.)

- SW Correspondent



The jubilant Kozhikode District team, winners of the Kerala State women's cricket tournament

Kerala women's cricket

CALICUT

IT was a fine dress rehearsal for the Junior National women's cricket scheduled for mid-October here. A good home crowd was thrilled to see Kozhikode District claiming the honours in the second annual Kerala State women's cricket. Played at the Calicut Mananchula maidans, local college girl Hansa Zacharia led them to a fine victory against holders Trivandrum, by 11 runs.

Batting first, Kozhikode were bundled out for a paltry 48 runs, Rajkumari claiming five for 17, and Helen four for 11. But thanks to the accurate bowling of Roshni, who took six wickets for nine runs, holders were skittled out for an unbelievable score of 37 runs. And the Savithri Sabu Memorial Trophy stayed home.

Earlier, Trivandrum beat Cannanore by five wickets, and Kozhi-

kode ousted Trichur by six wickets, in this 30-over series. Alleppey and Kottayam lost to Cannanore and Trichur, respectively, in the earlier rounds. It was nice to see as many as six districts vying for honours in the second year itself.

Special prizes were awarded to the following players for the best performance: Allrounder T Roshni (Kozhikode), Fielder Sabina Jacob (Trivandrum), Bowler V Rajkumari (Trivandrum), Batsman, Margaret Netto (Cannanore).

—ABOO

BANGALORE

KRISHNA RAO of Hyderabad won the C D Chandrasekhar memorial billiards tournament here. He beat Tamil Nadu's Syed Aleem 1,496-1,296 for his second win in the three-man final league round. Krishna Rao beat Karnataka's Arvind Savur earlier.



by JIMMY MEHTA

IMMACULATE defence by Dr Tibrewala and Punjabi held declarer to four tricks on this innocuous looking part-score hand from the Tibrewala/Arora match at the recently concluded CCI tournament:

Q 9 5
A K 5
J 9 3
A 9 6 5
Rodrigues
N

Tibrewala
A K 2
J 10 4 3 W
A 10 7
4 3 2

Punjabi
10 7 4
E Q 9 8 7 2
K 4
K J 10

S
Athavle
J 8 6 3
6
Q 8 6 5 2
Q 8 7

N/S Vul — Bidding

N	E	S	W
1 D	Pass	1 S	Pass
1 NT	Pass	2 D	Pass
2 S	Pass	Pass	Pass

Tibrewala rightly disdained to enter the auction despite his good twelve points and also resisted the

temptation of a spade lead. He led a low heart, won by dummy's Ace. South played a low diamond from dummy, won by East with his King who continued diamonds, angling for a ruff. Tibrewala took his Ace and deciding that partner's ruff could wait, continued hearts. The third diamond was played from dummy ruffed by East who tapped declarer with a third heart to arrive at this position.

Q 9 5
nil
nil
A 9 6 5
N

A K 2	10 7
J	(Q) 9
nil W	E nil
4 3 2	K J 10

S
J 8 6
nil
Q 8
Q x

A harassed Athavle now tried a low spade from hand and when Tibrewala ducked smoothly, finessed the nine spot losing to East's ten. Punjabi returned a trump to Tibrewala who drew the outstanding ones and led a club through dummy's Ace. Declarer collected only his heart Ace and King, club Ace and one trump for a four hundred point penalty.

This was not one of Athavle's best played hands. A low club from table at trick two instead of the diamond might have cut his losses considerably, but this can hardly detract from the perfection of defensive technique displayed.

Here is another fine defence from the same tournament. Cover

up the South and East cards before reading further:

K Q J
A Q 6 4 3
A 3 2
10 8

Abde

A 10
K J 10
K 10 5 4
K J 4 2

9 4 2
9 8
Q 9 8 7 6
Q 9 3

Kohli

8 7 6 5 3
7 5 2
J
A 7 6 5

Bidding

W	N	E	S
1 D	X	2 D	2 S
Pass	4 S	Pass	Pass
Pass	—	—	—

The opening lead was a low diamond, won in dummy with the Ace, followed by the spade King. Plan the defence.

You need some luck to beat this hand. West, Abde Barodawalla, shifted to a low club, partner's Queen losing to declarer's Ace. Kohli now tried to duck a heart to him in an attempt to set up the heart suit, but Abde persisted with the club King and Knave forcing dummy to ruff and promoting his partner's nine spot. The club shift, though logical, was missed at my table by one of Tibrewala's players, who led the spade Ace and continued spades. I was now able to duck a heart and later draw trumps, finesse hearts and romp home with four spades, four hearts and two minor Aces. The opening lead did no damage, but West should have seen the danger of the heart suit in dummy and shifted at trick two to clubs.

by

D H
A E
V N
I D
D E
R S
O N
N



Four new marks at dawn

to see that there was no interference.

At last all was ready and the small party from England who had spent most of the night or last-minute preparations were satisfied that the moment had come.

The big 1,000 cc Brough Superior machine was wheeled out on to the road and the streamlining casing around the engine and rear wheels was bolted into position.

The man who was to make the attempt was Eric Fernihough and the world record was held by German speed ace Ernst Henne. In four years he had taken the flying kilometre record from 150 to 169 mph.

Fernihough had been a spectator of that final record attempt in October 1936 and now he was determined to beat it on his partly streamlined Brough Superior. It had cost him £150 to hire a three-

mile stretch of the Gyon Road, so he could not afford to fail.

He did NOT fail. From a flying start he covered the kilometre in 13.175 seconds for a new record of 169.6 miles an hour, and the mile in 21.38 seconds, for a new mile record of 168.3 miles an hour.

After his mechanics fitted a sidecar to the Brough, he returned to the deserted road and set up new sidecar records of 135 for one mile and 137 for the kilometre. It was a four-fold win for Britain.

Seven months later Ernst Henne regained the solo records and on April 23, 1938, Fernihough returned to Budapest for yet another attempt to ride a motorcycle faster than the German. It was to be his last.

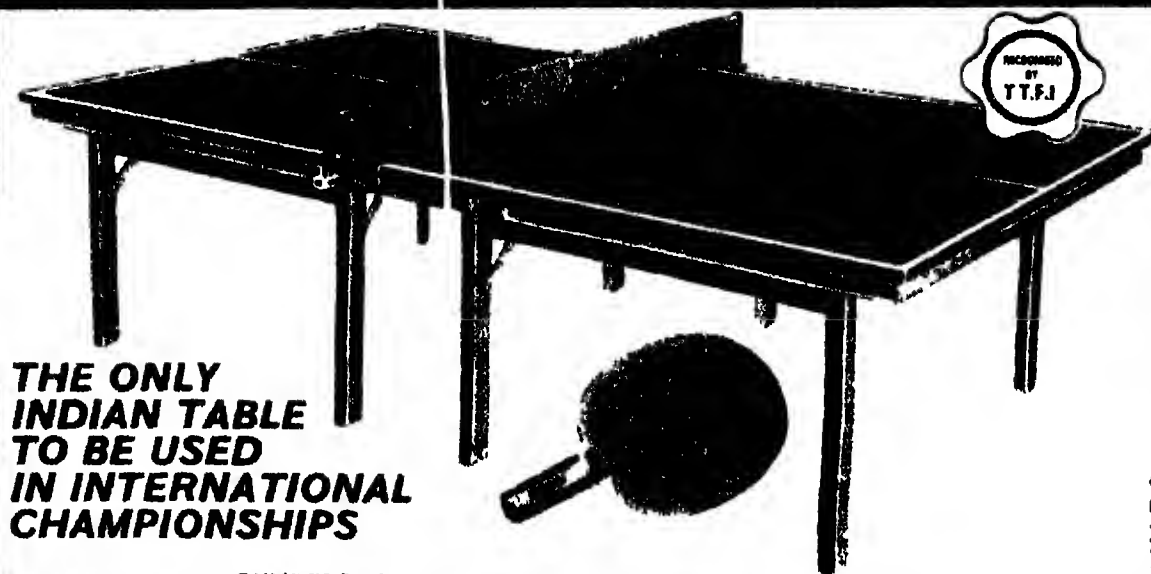
Travelling at more than 170 miles an hour his machine left the road and Fernihough was catapulted from the saddle. He died a few hours later in hospital.

AS the dawn lightened the sky on April 19, 1937, a small group of men were busily fussing around a big, powerful motorcycle on the grass verge adjoining the deserted Gyon Road, near Budapest. The only spectators of this strange scene on that chilly, grey morning were several armed Hungarian policemen.

An attempt was to be made on the world motorcycle speed record and the police guard was present

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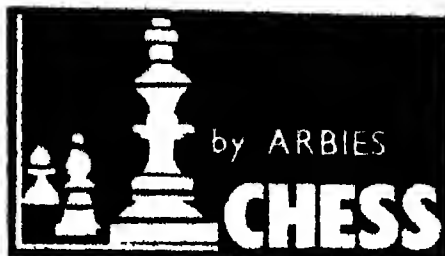
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THE 3rd Bhilwara Trophy Chess Tournament conducted by the Tamil Nadu Chess Association at Madras in September, was won by the 52 year-old Andhra Pradesh veteran Mohamed Hassan, senior-most among the competitors.

Final positions with tie breaking S B Scores in brackets: Mohamed Hassan (AP) 9 (52) out of 13, S Nasir Ali (UP) 9 (51), R Ravi Sekhar (TN) 8½ (57), N Ghalib (AP) 8½ (51), R Nagnendra (AP) 8½ (50), S V Natarajan (TN) 8; V B Adhikari (Maha) 7, M Aaron (TN) 6 (39), T N Parameswaran (TN) 6 (34), V Ravi Kumar (TN) 5, S Hasan (Maha) 4½, R Raghunathan (TN) 4 (22), S Manikandaswamy (TN) 4 (19), L K Ramachandran (TN) 3.

The first four received cash prizes of Rs 4000, Rs 3000, Rs 2000 and Rs 1000 respectively. A special prize was awarded to 16 year old V Ravi Kumar, the youngest of the competitors who defeated M Aaron and Nasir Ali. Mahalal Sukhania, Governor of Tamil Nadu gave away the

prizes. The prize fund was donated by the Bhilwara Group of Industries and TNCA bore all expenses.

Here is a fine game played by Mohamed Hassan in this tournament.

KING'S INDIAN DEFENCE

White: S. V Natarajan

Black: Mohamed Hassan

1 PQ4, NKB3 2. PQB4, PKN3 3. NQB3, BN2 4. NB3, PQ3 5. PK4, 00 6. BK2, PK4 7. PQ5 (a), PQR4 (b) 8. 00, QNQ2 9. RK1, NB4 10. BR1, PN3 11. RN1 (c) 12. PQN3, NR4 13. PQR3, PB4 14. PQN4, RPXP 15. RPXP, PXP1 16. NKN5, NQ61 (d) 17. BxN, PxB 18. QxP, BB4 19. N(5)K4, NB5 20. QQ1, QR5 21. PB3 (e) NXP1 22. KxN, BR6ch 23. KR1, RXP1 (f) 24. BN5, QN5 25. RN1, QB4 26. QK2, RKB1 27. BK3, PR3 28. PB5 (g) N.PXP 29. PXP BxBP 30. BxBP, RB2 31. PQ6, BN5! 32. RxB (h), QxR 33. PXP, RXP 34. QB4ch? (i) KR1 35. NQ5, RxB! 36. QR4, RxB 37. QR8ch, RKB1 38. QxR, QB6ch 39. KN1, KR2 40. White lost on time.

(a) This avoids the most aggressive variation for Black 7. 00, NB3 8. PQ5, NK2 followed by NQ2 or K1 and PKB4.

(b) The theoretical order of moves is 7. QNQ2 8. 00 (or 8. BN5, PKR3) NB4 9. QB2 (or 1. Q2), PQR4. The text gives White a chance for 7. PB5. PXP 8. NXP NXP (or NXP 9. NxB, BxN 10. BR6) 9. NxB, BxN 10. BN5 with good play for the Pawn.

(c) The plan of driving away the Black Knight on QB4 is slow and allows Black King side initiative.

(d) Black gains the advantage of two Bishops.

(e) If 21. PN3, QR6! 22. PXP, PXP! Black has excellent attacking chances, e.g. 23. BxP, BN5 or 23. PB3, RR7.

(f) Black has two Pawns and attack for the piece.

(g) At last White seems to have got going on the Q-side.

(h) White has to give up the exchange sooner or later; but he could have postponed it by 31. QQ2 threatening 32. PXP, RXP 34. QQ8ch.

(i) Time trouble. But anyway White's is difficult, e.g. 34. BK3, QR6 35. NQ5, RO2 36. N4B3, PK5, or 34. NQ5, RB8ch! 35. QxR, QxNch 36. KN1, QxN, or 34. RN8ch, KR2 35. NQ5, R2B2.

END GAME

Last week's ending by S V Simhadri:

White: Kc1, Qf1, Nc4

Black: Ka1, Qf2

White to play and win

1. Qd1, Qg2 (or h2), 2. Qe1, Ka2 (a) 3. Qa5ch Kb3 4. Nd2ch wins. 1. Qe2 loses to 2. Qd4ch, Ka2 3. Qa7ch, Kb3 4. Qa3ch, Kxc4 5. Qa6ch.

(a) 2. Qf2 (or g2) 3. Qa5ch Qa2 4. Qe5ch wins.

OLYMPIC REBOA

Pool 'A': Holland, Australia, India, Malaysia, Canada, Argentina.

Pool 'B': Pakistan, Spain, New Zealand, West Germany, Belgium. Kenya withdrew.

Pool 'A': Holland bt Australia 2-1, India 3-1, Malaysia 2-0, Canada 3-1, Argentina 1-0. Australia bt India 6-1, Malaysia 2-0, Canada 3-0 and lost to Argentina 2-3. India bt Malaysia 3-0, Canada 3-0, Argentina 4-0, Malaysia bt Canada 1-0, Argentina 2-0, Canada bt Argentina 3-1, Australia bt India 5-4 in the replay for the second place.

Positions: 1. Holland 10 pts, 2. Australia 6 pts, 3. India 6 pts, 4. Malaysia 4 pts, 5. Canada 2 pts, 6. Argentina 2 pts.

Pool 'B': Pakistan drew with Spain 2-2, bt New Zealand 5-2, West Germany 4-2, Belgium 5-0. Spain drew with New Zealand 1-1, bt

West Germany 4-1, lost to Belgium 2-3. New Zealand drew with West Germany 1-1, bt Belgium 2-1. West Germany bt Belgium 6-1. New Zealand bt Spain 1-0 for the second place.

Positions: 1. Pakistan 7 pts, 2. New Zealand 4 pts, 3. Spain 4 pts, 4. West Germany 3 pts, 5. Belgium 2 pts.

Semi-finals: New Zealand bt Holland 2-1, Australia bt Pakistan 2-1. Final: New Zealand bt Australia 1-0.

Placings matches: Pakistan bt Holland 3-2 for the third place. For fifth to eighth places: West Germany bt India 3-2, Spain bt Malaysia 2-1, West Germany bt Spain 4-1, India bt Malaysia 2-0. For ninth to eleventh places: Belgium bt Argentina 3-2, Belgium bt Canada 3-2.

Final placings: 1. New Zealand

HOCKEY

2. Australia, 3. Pakistan, 4. Holland, 5. West Germany, 6. Spain, 7. India, 8. Malaysia, 9. Belgium, 10. Canada, 11. Argentina.

Leading scorers: 1. Paul Latjens (Holland) 11 (0fg, 1ns, 6pc, 4c), 2. Juan Arias (Spain) 7 (6pc, 1c) and Ronald Riley (Australia) 7 (7fg) and Wolfgang Stroedter (West Germany) 7 (5pc, 2c). 5. Munawar Zaman Khan (Pakistan) 6 (5pc, 2c). 6. Serge Dubois (Belgium) 4 (3pc, 1c) and Manzoor Hussain (Pakistan) 4 (4fg) and Tony Ineson (New Zealand) 4 (4pc) and Surjit Singh (India) 4 (4pc). 10. David Bell (Australia) 3 (3ps) and Ramesh Patel (NZ) 3 (1fg, 2ps) and Michael Peter (WG) 3 (3ps) and Vaduvela Philip (India) 3 (1fg, 2ps) and Abdul Rashid (Pak) 3 (3fg) and Rainer Seifert (WG) 3 (1fg, 1pc, 1c) and Shahnaz Sheikh (Pak) 3 (2fg, 1c) and Ajit Singh (India) 3 (3fg).

Fg field goals, ps penalty stroke, pc penalty corner, c corner.

Results of football, handball, judo and yachting are on the way from Montreal. This column will be resumed as soon as the remaining results are received.



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won't he?
will he?
won't he?
will he?
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BUZZING AROUND

by BUSYBEE

EVERYBODY knows that while our Cricket Board officials keep talking of having fast wickets in order to encourage pace bowlers and provide our batsmen with practice, actually they have instructed their associations to prepare slow wickets to help spin bowlers in the coming twin tour series.

The Board does this in the following manner. An official visits one of the Test centres and meets the groundsmen. "Well, Ramu, your father was a groundsmen here and you are a groundsmen and your son will be a groundsmen. But remember times have changed and we have to prepare wickets to meet our present requirements," he says.

"Yes, sir," says Ramu. "This wicket that I am preparing will assist fast bowlers right to the end of the third day. And even on the last two days the ball should rise chest high. The Test will be put down in record books as the pace bowler's dream."

"Let us not be carried away in our enthusiasm," says the official. "Remember, a cricket team is made of fast bowlers and slow bowlers and everybody should have a chance. So just be a nice guy and cut the grass a little."

"Very well sir," says Ramu. "and may I draw your attention to the brick foundation I have laid underneath the batting crease. I dug up the wicket and had the bricks laid and it took quite a bit of time. But then, if you want a proper bounce, you have to work for it."

The official says "I am afraid you will have to do a little more work. You will have to dig the

wicket again and remove the bricks. While we are all for fast wickets, and no two questions about it, we don't want too much bounce, do we."

"I will do what you say," says Ramu. "And have you noticed how green the wicket is. Our English visitors will feel so much at home on it."

"Let me congratulate on the greenness of the wicket," says the official, "I have seldom seen anything near it. However, I think, a little less green will be in order. After all, our boys also have to feel at home on the wicket."

"Yes, sir," says Ramu. "And now, if you will excuse me, I will supervise the watering of the wicket. I have it watered three times a day to keep it fast and grassy."

"What," says the official, "using up so much water when there is a national shortage. No doubt we have to water the pitch, but nothing will be lost if we do it once in three days. Do exercise a little economy in these things."

"I will keep it in mind," says Ramu. "And now I would like to tell you that this year we have decided not to use the heavy roller at all and, even the light roller, to use it as sparingly as possible. No point in making the wicket dead."

The official says: "I think it is a very original method of keeping the wicket lively and we could perhaps recommend it to our friends overseas. I will certainly put up the matter at our next board meeting and see that you get credit for it. However, for the time being, it may not be such a bad idea to use the heavy roller so that the game can keep going over five days."

"Right, sir," says Ramu.

"Thank you, then, and keep on the good work," says the official. "And now I must visit the other Test centres to ensure that they are also preparing fast wickets as per the instructions of the board."

Q WHAT is the significance of the five interlaced rings in the Olympic flag?

—S. K. Khanun
(Chander Nagar, Hoogly)

A THE five rings stand for the five continents of the world.

Q WHY are Indians getting poorer and poorer in every branch of sport?

—M. Sarkia (Gauhati 6)

A BECAUSE the officials are getting richer and richer at the expense of the athletes.

QUESTION

BY CHATTERBOX

Q WILL India ever produce a fast bowler?

—D. T. Ajay Kumar (Hyderabad)

A PATIENCE and perseverance on the part of the officials as well as the players will surely yield results.

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MASTER PLAN FOR SPORT

THE recent hockey debacle at Montreal calls for drastic action among members of the Indian Hockey Federation, its allied bodies and the public.

It is otiose and harmful to feign interest in some aspect of our culture (like hockey), while the fact is that members in various capacities of our sports organisations are more infatuated in earning their daily bread and encouraging unwholesome practices for self-aggrandisement purposes. A lack of discipline and control among members and players combined with lack of co-ordination has resulted in the composition of incompetent individuals sometimes constituting a team of heterogeneous nature.

Since it is futile to cry over spilt milk and dream of numerous ifs which can alleviate the present pathetic condition of the future of sports, I as an Indian abroad would like to place before the knowledgeable public of our country some realistic facts of paramount importance to rectify and rejuvenate the sports activities on rationally defensible lines.

Talent is partially inherited but mostly acquired. Hence our experts should strive to discover and train children at an impressionable age and set high standards of attainment for the child to master stage by stage and finally compete against his own standards. Our coaches and experts ought to hunt the schools instead of relying on finished college products who have

Hunt for talent in schools

lost the benefit of early rigorous training thereby reaching a point of saturation and showing less flexibility to greater improvement.

Professional players should be free from official responsibilities and enjoy governmental support to cater for their needs thereby minimising physical and mental problems arising from causes other than sports. Adequate amenities and standardised equipment should be provided so as to obliterate inconsistencies and aid optimum development. Playing fields should be maintained in conditions compatible with Olympics and other first-class competitions. A fresh supply of essentials should be plentifully provided.

Lack of stamina and adverse climatic conditions should not be considered an excuse for complacency, but aspects which ought to be faced and conquered. A high protein diet, followed by exposure to rigorous training in hills and plains should toughen players to adapt in trying circumstances. Freedom within a framework of discipline along logical lines is essential for the sportsman's development of his talent.

A thorough knowledge of the theoretical aspects of the game should be infused along with its practical application. This shall help our players to play intelligently and adopt cohesive cognitive tactics to counter the schemes of the opposition and develop adaptive responses as the situation demands. Lack of such flexibility can upset the team's rhythm and morale as experienced by the Indian hockey team against the hit and run tactics of Australians and New Zealanders.

Our sports organisations should develop a sound psychology among our players since they tend to be demoralised and lose the fighting spirit at crucial moments when it is needed so badly. A cool and calm approach should be inculcated in our players so as to maintain the spirit of sportsmanship both in victory and defeat.

A thorough cleansing of corrupt and unhealthy practices are necessary. Selection of players should be made on all-India basis without racial or social prejudice and discrimination. The tentacles of sports organisation should reach remote villages and provide opportunities to talented youth. Political and personal influences should be denounced as criminal and incompatible with such an holy organisation as sports to be defiled by power, wealth and other influences.

—R. E. Sunraj
(Gondar, Ethiopia)

MAKING sports compulsory in schools and colleges is alright. But more important and urgent is to make our children and boys sports-conscious. Towards the achievement of this I suggest the following:

Right from the secondary standards (Class VI onwards) make visual education of sports a sine qua non in school curriculum. Films on sports and sportsmen should be shown in every school at least once a week. Sports achievements seen on the screen will inspire youngsters to a very remarkable extent.

If Rajesh Khanna and Amitabh could excite boys and girls to dream of becoming film stars, it is entirely because of the popularity and availability of movies at a very cheap cost. For this purpose, every school should be provided with necessary equipments by the Govt. To prove my point I would draw attention to 'Sportsfolio' at the end of Indian News Review. That is one item, every one, particularly youngsters love. Every

Make 'em sports conscious

TV viewer was thrilled beyond words seeing the Rumanian wonder-girl's acrobatics in the gymnastic events.

Thus, by the time the boys and girls are 12, or 13, inspiration to achieve something in sports would already have set in. Regular inter-city schools sports meets could be

arranged and this would add to their filip.

Sports magazines could be started by the board of schools and universities containing enjoyable reading material on sports by outstanding sportsmen.

While screening sportsmen's lives, emphasis should be on their achievements and not on their private lives. Special documentaries could be made with this end in

Hurry up!

The last date for sending entries for SPORTSWEEK's Master Plan for sport is 15th October 1976. There's a small incentive totalling Rs 1,000/- for the best ideas, Rs 500 as the first prize, Rs 300 as the second prize and four consolation prizes of Rs 50 each.

My point is that our youngsters are not sports conscious. Without this consciousness, making them compulsorily take to sports will hardly serve the purpose. Nothing can help in this direction more than films. This media should be fully exploited. And an inspired team of youngsters would deliver the goods with the amenities which are proposed to be made available to them.

—T. Santhanam (Bombay 37)

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TUDOR Moss proved himself to be the best three-year-old racing in Pune when he claimed the rich 1,800 metres General Rajendrasinhji Gold Cup with such effortless ease that he may have been having a morning exercise while his three rivals were engaged in a hard-fought race. His victory was widely anticipated and loudly acclaimed but the student of form has to analyse exactly what the victory meant in terms of the Classic chances of the got-abroad Star Moss Tudor Sky colt.

The sad fact is that though the race is the most prestigious term affair for three-year-olds in Pune with few exceptions, like Bade Miya for instance the winner has not made a significant impact on the Indian Classics which are run in Bombay. Again, Tudor Moss had nothing of any quality behind him and as such it is difficult to form a firm opinion of his true capability.

Yet, it must be remembered that he won without working up a sweat and did so the hard way, making his own running. He was well clear soon on hitting the straight and after Richard Alford, who was astride, had satisfied himself that there was no danger by repeatedly looking over his shoulder, he was pulling up towards the close.

Finally, Tudor Moss scored by five lengths from the fully ridden out Amontillado, who was two and a half lengths in front of the exhausted Diamond Sind Bright Success, a maiden who was clearly without hope here, finished a distance behind after trying to come on terms with Tudor Moss early in the race. The time of 1 minute, 57 seconds in firm going was good in the circumstances.

This was the fourth run of Tudor Moss and it brought him his third victory. He won from his only outing in Bombay and was then beaten by Chasm-E-Shahi in the 1,400 metres F D Wadia Gold Cup in which he was racing after a lay off of eight months. Subsequently, he beat Class Four opposition pointless in the 1,400 metres Mysore Race Club Cup to emphasise that his earlier defeat was brought about by his long absence from the race track and not by any lack of ability. It is patent

Tudor Moss proves himself

that Chasm-E-Shahi will never beat him again.

Few Indian Derby winners rise to the stature of a Commanche, a Thunder Storm or a Balam, few sink so low as, for instance, did Regal Domain, as all have intrinsic merit and despite the ravages of time and the inability to do their best because of various ailments they do show out from time to time.

Mansoor is a case in point. The gelded son of King's Son-Butterfly beat the celebrated Bade Miya in the Derby, was most unfortunate to go down to Prince Royal in the Invitation Cup because of repeated interference from the riderless Bade Miya (Erriest Alford had fallen out of the saddle in a freak accident near the Distance Post) and kept his place in the highest class till the end of the last Bombay campaign.

He came down rapidly in the weight thereafter and in the three-horse field from the combined Classes One and Two in the 2,000 metres John Kenny Plate he was in receipt of as much as 12.5 kilos from topweight Red River. Mansoor had done nothing to indicate that he would trounce the opposition as he often got off slowly and raced in the ruck. This time he got off smartly, raced behind

Young Stallion till midway and then took charge. He went away from his rivals in the run-in and scored by a distance from Red River, who was seven lengths clear of Young Stallion.

The winner and the last named are both seven-year-olds and while Mansoor was unconsidered in his first season in Bombay, Young Stallion was being hailed as a Classic prospect. Young Stallion went wrong in Bangalore where Bade Miya won his maiden race and Mansoor started to show promise in Poona. Three-year-olds improve or worsen so rapidly it is only in exceptional cases that the early Classic favourite justifies the trust placed in him.

THE Bangalore Turf Club has paid to the Karnataka government Rs 2,38,90,494 as betting tax during 1975-76 against Rs. 2,60,47,633 during 1974-75, according to the BTC secretary, Arshad Ali Khan.

Khan said that the tote investment by the punters during 1975-76 was Rs 40,60,627 as against Rs 5,03,38,573 in the previous year.

The bookmakers' collection during 1975-76 amounted to Rs 16,95,46,475 as against Rs 16,93,39,370 in 1974-75, he said.

MAIL BAG

INDIA's off-spinner S Venkatraghavan has a unique record to his credit. In his maiden Test series against New Zealand in 1965, he had the distinction of dismissing all the 11 Kiwi players in the fourth Test at New Delhi, either in the first innings or in the second. His match figures were 12 for 152 (with 8 for 72 in the first and 4 for 80 in the second). Only Jim Laker of England performed this feat in the fourth Test at Manchester against Australians in 1956. His figures were 9 for 37 in the first innings and 10 for 53 in the second, thus claiming all the eleven batsmen either in the first innings or in the second.

--C K Subramani, C K Ramakrishnan and C K Suresh (Madinagar)

SOUTH AFRICA's decision to end decades of segregation in sport is a welcome change. Isn't it the result of united and firm stand taken by those nations who consistently expressed their abhorrence of the apartheid system on every available forum? It is heartening that Pretoria has at last taken note of world feeling.

—Ravindra Bukkam and Sopan Kudchadker (Goa)

THREE months ago a camp for fast bowlers was held at Ferozsha Kotla under the supervision of national selector Vijay Mehra. But I feel the camp was of no use because the selection committee are not interested in selecting one or two genuine pace bowlers for the coming series against New Zealand and MCC this winter because if they do so they lose a specialist batsman from the side. If they are really interested, I request the committee to select two to three fast bowlers from each college in each zone and coach them under the supervision of one of the following: Chandu Borde, M A K Pataudi, Hanuman Singh, V L Manjrekar or Ramakant Desai.

—Praveen Kumar Gupta (New Delhi)

SUNIL GAVASKAR, the master batsman of India should now be appointed captain. He has showed us that he bats better when he is the captain. We saw that in the last season (for Bombay) and in the Auckland Test against New Zealand.

—V. Sridhar (Bombay)

ALI v NORTON

Continued from page 7

support — but Norton punished him for that lapse of concentration.

In Ali's corner, usually pulsating with confidence, the words of anguish came up into the night. "You are giving the round away," said aide Bundini Brown. Rightly.

So Ali's stride changed, mentally and physically. He tightened his concern and his punch production. In the sixth, he had showed he was hurt by a left that clattered his ribs. In the seventh, he gave Norton some trouble with his sequence of punches.

Norton captured the eighth round to regain his ascendancy but Ali, dancing at last and jabbing at his challenger, ran off the next three. At times Norton looked as if he was not relishing Ali's fists, as if each punch was beginning to take its toll but he would not die.

The 11th round was the best of the fight. The others rippled along below the peak, this one spilled over it. Norton began it by openly taunting Ali, mouthing at him, his eyes ablaze.

Ali, momentarily upstaged, smashed Norton into the ropes and there battered out punishment.

crunching in with all the strength and accuracy he could command.

Again Norton would not die. He shouted at Ali at the end of the round, and the referee had to push Ali away as the bell sounded — and Ali still wanted to continue the argument.

Norton did not know it, but his time as titleholder was almost over. He was awarded the twelfth round, but only the referee gave him another round.

The two judges scored the last three solidly for Ali, thus allowing the champion to catch up on what he had almost lost and finish where he had started, as titleholder.

"I didn't tell the white judges to pick me," said Ali. "They are

REFEREE ARTHUR MERCANTI

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
A	N	N	A	N	N	A	N	A	A	A	A	A	N	A

Ali 8, Norton 6, one even

JUDGE HAROLD JEDERMAN

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
A	N	N	N	N	N	A	N	A	A	A	N	A	A	A

Ali 8, Norton 7

JUDGE BARNEY SMITH

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
A	N	A	N	N	N	A	N	A	N	A	N	A	A	A

Ali 8, Norton 7

white Christians, not Muslims. They don't give me nothing — I'm an arrogant nigger."

Ali's camp whispered praises for Norton — "He fought a hell of a fight, and was very well prepared," said trainer Angelo Dundee.

Somewhere else in the building, Joe Frazier was saying: "I thought Norton was the winner all the way. I scored it ten rounds to five for Norton. He was in better condition and had the greater desire to win."

They paid 2,400,000 dollars to see the heavyweight championship come back to Yankee Stadium after 17 years.

Ali takes a 6,000,000 dollar purse, and Norton 1,000,000 dollars. But they took away their differing frustrations as well.

Yankee Stadium was a great bowl in the New York night. And both of them drowned in it.

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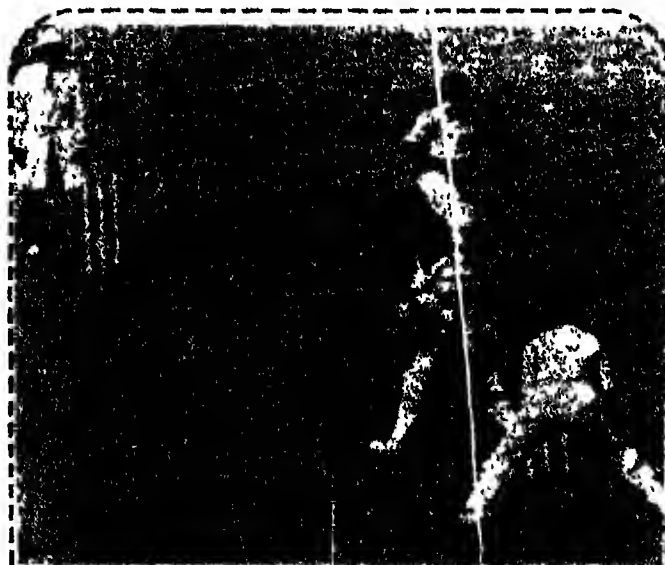
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CLOSING DATE: 26th Oct.

Results will be published in the issue of Sportsweek dated 7th Nov 1976.

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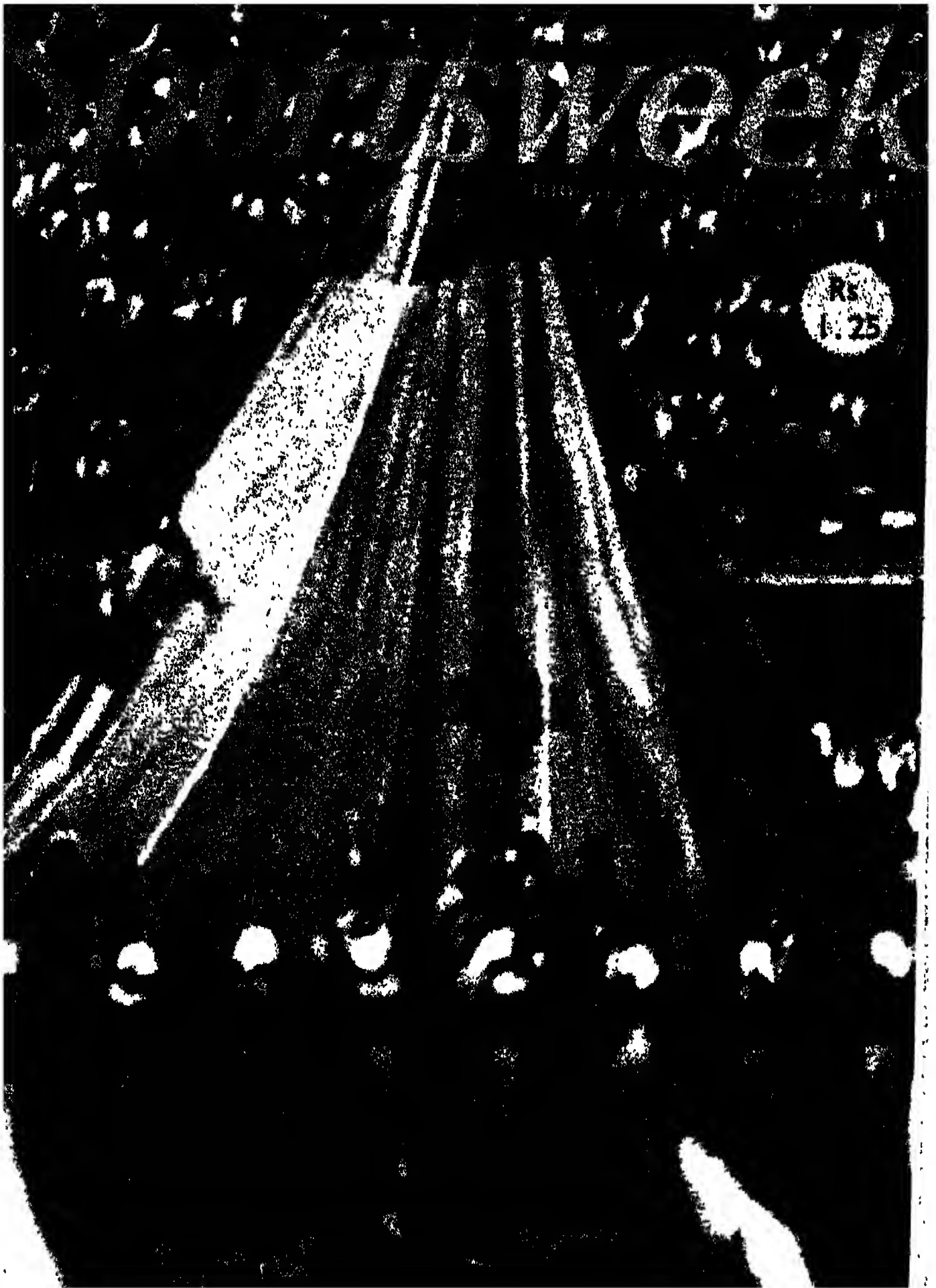


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INSIDE

CRICKET:

There's a heavy season ahead for Indian cricketers. We begin a series of articles on the prospects ahead. Madhav Mantri feels India are being well served by the present set of Test players and pleads for a retention of the old guard (p 6)

There's a flashback to Lord's 1971 when John Snow knocked down India's Sunil Gavaskar. Cricket's rebel gives his version of the incident (p 10)

BOXING:

Muhammad Ali has announced his decision to quit boxing. What drove him to that decision? Three eminent boxing writers, Alan Hoby, Barry Newcombe and Sydney Halls go deep into that decision (p 8-9)

BADMINTON:

The West Zone inter-state badminton championships provided a surprise — Madhya Pradesh beat traditional rivals Maharashtra (p 25).

COVER: The closing ceremony at the Montreal Olympic Games — with the tepee providing the Red Indian touch that the Canadians introduced as a novelty. Transparency. Sarosh J. Nagarkar

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KHALID ANSARI:

Sportswweek's 8th anniversary

Not 'Nowhere Men', we hope

He's a real Nowhere Man
Sitting in his Nowhere Land
Making all his Nowhere Plans
For Nobody

Doesn't have a point of view
Knows not where he's going to
Isn't he a bit like you and me?

Nowhere Man, please listen
You don't know what you're missing
Nowhere Man, the world's at your
command

He's as blind as he can be
Just sees what he wants to see
Nowhere Man, can you see me
At all?

—The Beatles

COMES a time in the lives of men, as of institutions, when one has to pause in the frenetic rush of everyday life to take stock of where one is going — if at all

SPORTSWEEK's eighth anniversary which falls on the 13th of this month, provides just such an opportunity for making a dispassionate appraisal of what we are all about and where we are headed

It would be highly immodest of us to trumpet our achievements, insignificant and inconsequential as they are. It is infinitely more important that we realise our shortcomings and endeavour to overcome them. Readers' criticisms are, therefore, most welcome on this occasion. The more caustic and hard-hitting, the better. But no hitting below the belt, please.

We cannot, in all honesty, promise that we will be able to implement all of our readers' suggestions, but do solemnly pledge to try our very best.

We would also like to assure our readers — our *raison d'être* — many of who have been with us since the humble start we made in 1968, and have stayed with us loyally through our difficult formative years, that we shall continue trying to justify their faith in us, doing our little bit in the cause of promoting Indian sport, making as many of our countrymen, as possible, sports-minded and thereby better Indians and human beings.

And, oh yes. You also have our assurance that we will endeavour our utmost not to be Nowhere Men.

POINT OF VIEW

by MADHAV
MANTRI

Beginning this week, SPORTSWEEK features the views of former Test cricketers on the challenges of the season ahead

Retain the old guard

WHEN the Indian team left for the twin-tour of New Zealand and the West Indies, early this year, none expected them to do wonders. In fact, the critics had rated our chances in New Zealand as "not too difficult," and in the West Indies as a "loss without a fight." How wrong they were.

It was certainly not a triumphant tour but it was an encouraging one in most respects. And most encouraging to my way of thinking was that we arrived at a settled batting order which is a great boon to the psychology of a team.

Each batsman knows in which position he is to bat and adjusts his game accordingly. Our previous teams know just how disastrous it is when the batting order is constantly chopped and changed. Four for 7010 at Leeds in 1952 comes vividly to mind.

The experience of batting against Collinge, Hadlee and Co. in New Zealand and against Roberts, Holding, Daniel and Co. in the West Indies should stand the batsmen in good stead when they face the New Zealand and England bowlers on our wickets. Now that our batsmen from No 1 to 6 have tasted blood in Tests, they should be run-hungry when the tourists arrive in this country.

But we have not yet found a pace bowler. It is obvious that a pace bowler cannot be produced overnight. Lots of hard work, persistence, sweat and toil are required to produce one. Therefore if we start in right earnest we may spot a promising one in say five years.

We have, therefore, to be satisfied with what we have. Luckily, we have a pair now who can use the new ball. Both Madan Lal and Mohinder Amarnath are gluttons for work. Both are excellent field-



Mohinder Amarnath bids fair to become a top class batsman

ers and are more than useful as batsmen.

Mohinder bids fair to become a top class batsman. He has the technique and now the confidence that he can get runs in top company. That is what matters really and we need not look beyond him for a No 3. Madan Lal may not have overcome his fright for the rising ball but he has some useful scores to his credit.

The spinners are going from strength to strength and should serve India well as usual. Spinners have always lasted longer than pacemen, they mature later and by this standard our spinners must now have matured into a top-class combination comparable to the best ever. No country can boast of even one spinner who is in their class.

We have a problem of whom to drop. This is our strongest point and we must capitalise on it.

Our fielding has improved tremendously and is up to international standard. Our close catching is very good. We would certainly miss someone like Solkar, but I understand that Dilip Vengsarkar has quickly got used to this position.

We, thus, have a fairly well balanced team. Having played together for four months they should know each other well and thanks to the experienced Polly Umrigar, who was their manager during the twin tour, and a shrewd Bishan Bedi at the helm, they have developed into a team which, under trying circumstances, is not likely to give in without a tough fight.

As against this the New Zealand team has had its misfortunes. Their four aces have not been able to make the tour — Congdon, Wadsworth (now no more), Howarth and Dayle. Hadlee, New Zealand's main weapon in attack, will be pace and unless they get acclimatised quickly they will find the going very difficult at Kanpur and Madras, while they have a chance

Play a game

— TODAY

at Bombay That is why I said they should get quickly acclimatised. They play the Bombay Test within four days of their arrival in the country. On our wickets their batsmen will be tested to the full by our spinners backed by good fielding. I back India 60-40 to win the series against New Zealand.

Against England, our performance will depend mainly on how well we do against New Zealand. Most of the MCC players are new and we do not know their true potential. But that could be their strong point as our newcomers proved on the tour of New Zealand and the West Indies. The players will be keen to establish reputations and therefore will concentrate more and work harder.

Tony Greig has yet to win a Test match as a skipper and, therefore, will also be trying hard to win the series to establish himself as England captain.

That India on home wickets are a difficult proposition has been admitted by everyone from Greg Chappell of Australia to Clive Lloyd of the West Indies. India's chances of winning the series seem to be better at this moment but knowing the vagaries of cricket, I think India's chances are only 50-50.

Many critics and enthusiasts keep harping on the subject of trying out youngsters. First let me ask if our present team is old? Except Prasanna, I do not think anybody is over 30. At this rate when Viswanath is 30 by 1979, people will be looking for a replacement for him because he will have been in Test cricket for 10 years.

Ashok Mankad, who is not even 30, is already treated as a veteran. We have a mania for this "catch 'em young" slogan. It is my firm opinion that Test cricket is no ground for experiments and that only the best team available should be chosen with the intention of winning every match.

By all means try out the temperament and ability of possible replacements in the other matches. Players like Rakesh Tandon, Ranjan Baidoo, Ghulam Snaikh, Sambaran Banerjee and others may be given chances to prove their ability in the other first class matches.

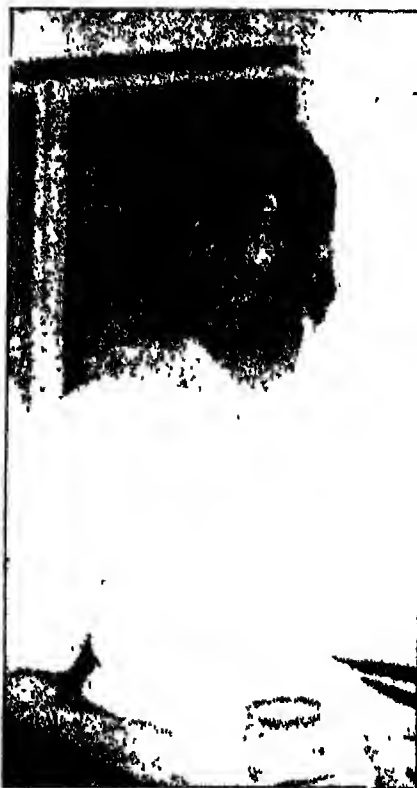
Let's not think of our visit to Australia in 1978 now. As I have been stressing our present team is fairly young and if all goes well I hope most of them will retain their places. Replacements will have to come from players mentioned above and a few more. All I hope for is that players like Dilip Vengsarkar will come on the scene each season and remain to serve the country well.

Jimmy Mehta — RIP

THOSE whom the Gods love, it is said, die young.

A former Davis Cup player who represented his country with distinction, Jimmy Maneck Mehta, who passed away in the ill-fated air-crash at Santa Cruz airport, Bombay, in the early hours of Tuesday was by no means young in years. He was 61. But those of us who had the good fortune of knowing this noble soul knew that at heart he was much, much younger and fitter — than most people half his age.

Those whom he befriended and often helped without strings attached will be hardly surprised at the early 'summoning' of Jimmy by the Almighty, for such were his qualities of head and heart. But the sudden manner of his passing on has come as a shock and a trauma. When this writer rushed to his office at 2-30 am in response to a telephone call from



the Inquilab, little did he realise at that time that among the tragic victims of the crash would be Jimmy Mehta.

A gentleman to the core, a gracious host, a loyal friend, always obliging, self-effacing to a fault and great fun to be with, the widely-travelled Jimmy was only recently elected vice-president of the All-India Lawn Tennis Association and

named chief referee for the Grand Prix tournament to be held in Bangalore. His first love was sport. Few were the evenings during which he did not manage to take time off from his pressing business and social commitments to have a knock at the courts, not infrequently imparting valuable hints to the aspiring, mainly because his dream was to see the game that he loved so much prosper and grow in popularity.

A sportsman in the finest tradition, he could — but his modesty prevented him — count the world's greatest players and administrators among his close friends.

An executive committee member of the CCI, which closed its tennis courts on the day of his death as a mark of respect to his memory, and the Willingdon Club, Bombay, the talented Jimmy represented India several times in the Stevens Cup for veterans and this year reached the quarter finals of the veterans' doubles event at Wimbledon in partnership with Naren Dranath.

A regular contributor to SPORTSWEEK, Jimmy always considered himself an integral part of the 'family'.

It seems like just yesterday that Jimmy and his good wife Homai spent an "evening of sport" chez nous with friends from the U.S. and it was just last week that one met him at a Rotary meeting — he was a good, active Rotarian — where, smiling from ear to ear, as was his wont, he bellowed in his fog-horn voice "Let's have a chin wag 'oon." What about? "Tennis, of course! And the Nationals of which you and I are big chiefs (namely vice chairmen)!"

To his charming wife Homai, our most heartfelt condolences. Mere words cannot alleviate sorrow and suffering on such occasions, but we would like her to know that we are with her in her irreparable loss.

Indian tennis has suffered a grievous loss in the passing away of Jimmy Mehta, the epitome of true sportsmanship. When the Great Scorer comes, as he is said to, he will certainly not find Jimmy wanting in the matter of always playing the game as a gentleman.

Indeed, the world is the poorer without Jimmy. For he was one in a billion. May his soul rest in peace.

—K.A.

The king abdicates?

by ALAN HOBY

HAS it really happened? Is the astonishing age of Muhammad Ali — pugilist, preacher, athlete, bigmouth, poet and showman — finally over?

Will we never again see him taunting and hitting opponents simultaneously, taking on everyone, ducking no one and prancing theatrically from continent to continent, country to country, as he cleans up the millions?

Or is the king of boxing kidding us all yet again when he says he is quitting the ring for ever "while everyone is happy and I am winning?"

The answer lies in his own complex, contradictory, mystical make up

Ali has always been master of the unexpected both in and out of the ring. All through the god-like professional career spanning 16 years and 54 fights, Ali has kept a step ahead of the herd.

And, although you must always keep your options open where a volatile eccentric like Ali is concerned, I believe that this time he means it.

For behind the narcissistic pos-



Muhammad Ali puts his hands over his ears as he prays in The Blue Mosque at Istanbul after announcing his decision to quit the ring

ing, the outrageous outbursts and the unshakable belief that he is the world's greatest celebrity, stands a very proud black man.

He knows, after his pride-shattering performance against Ken Norton in New York — although

from my seat in the Yankee Stadium I agreed with the narrow verdict — that fatigue, slowness and age have insidiously crept up on him like ghouls in the night.

As the journeyman Norton proved, Muhammad Ali today is only a parody of the graceful, light-footed mover whose speed of hand and foot was the most dazzling sight in sport. The genius has gone.

In the waking moments of night, in the privacy of his room, Ali will bitterly acknowledge that the skills, unsurpassed in boxing, have gone. Pensive and solemn, he will brood on his sharp physical decline.

Where against Norton was the power which gripped him when he destroyed the supposedly invincible George Foreman in Zaire two years ago?

Aging, fading with his 35th birthday coming up in January, Ali must have heard, above the howl of the crowd in that vast baseball stadium, the first requiem notes of a ghostly trumpet heralding the imminent eclipse of the most exciting super star of all time.

During his grandstand career Ali has not only been a larger-than-life champion who has restructured boxing on a panoramic scale. As a Black Muslim he has, with his hypnotic personality, become the self-styled spokesman of the black, brown and beige races of the earth. "When I retire I will

The 'greatest actor'

MUHAMMAD ALI upstaged his opponent film actor Ken Norton by announcing his starring role in a film of his life entitled "The Greatest."

Shooting starts this month in Miami for the five million dollar film of which director Tom Gries said: "If this goes well, Ali could make more money from it than all his fights put together."

Ali's ring earnings amount to more than 45 million dollars. Gries said "Ali has the charisma and personality to be one of the biggest names in the movie business."

Ali chipped in "I will be the greatest actor of all time. I'm so happy because the black movies made today are really disgraceful. Ken Norton makes bad movies. I have got to knock him out so we can put some clean movies on. I'll definitely be the first to make a good black movie."

The film will cover nearly 20 years of Ali's life, ending with his victory over George Foreman in Zaire in 1974 when he regained the world title. Eight minutes of

existing films of some of his fights will be worked into the two-hour film which is expected to be released next summer.

Actors are being assigned to various characters in Ali's life. Ernest Borgnine will play his trainer, Angelo Dundee, and actors are being cast for fighters Sonny Liston and Joe Frazier.

Ali's wife, Belinda, from whom he is now separated, will be portrayed as well. Three black members of Ali's entourage will play themselves.

Two boys will play Ali as a young man — 13-year-old James Le Roy Smith and Chip McAllister, who was 19 on October 2. Neither has acted before. Smith will receive 300 dollars a day and a motor bike, McAllister 1000 dollars a week.

They are being trained in boxing by the American welterweight Hedgemon Lewis and were chosen from more than 300 applicants.

Ali said the film company had not tested him on one line to see if he could act!

—BARRY NEWCOMBE

preach the truth," he has said over and over during the last decade. But the truth would not sound so good to audiences, however sycophantic, if it came from a beaten champion.

"A king today must answer to the people," says Ali. "A king belongs to the people." The Muslim brothers realise this, hence the spectacular, well-timed call in Turkey by Wallace Muhammad, Ali's spiritual leader, for the champion to retire and "use the fist of his tongue" in the cause of Islam.

But it is as a superb unorthodox boxer and entertainer who so often had us smiling that I shall remember **her** Ali, I have many memories

There was the time in late 1961 when I flew to see him in his home town of Louisville (Kentucky) Stone-faced Sonny Liston was the sinister champion at the time

Always the fantasist, he took me out on to the famous Kentucky Derby racecourse during a freak snowstorm. Leaping and running ahead as the falling flakes speckled his dark head, he shouted "I'm the Messiah. I'm the champ. The ugly old bear (Liston) is only holding the crown for me. The bear will fall." I thought that I had never seen such a handsome mettlesome young star

There was the time when after three and a half years banishment from the ring after refusing to be drafted into the US army, I went to see him in Miami where he was training for his comeback. He was the big, bad man then and he was broke.

The 6,000,000 dollar a fight cosmic hero of later years was living in a run down kosher hotel on the beach. "Come into my palatial quarters" he said sarcastically as he went into a large shabby room which served as kitchen, bedroom and lounge. But his vast ego emerged intact as he cried "Tell everyone I'm the true champion. Joe Frazier, who's he?" Even then he had no doubt who was the greatest.

And there was the time under the equatorial moon of Zaire, when, resting in his airconditioned villa by the Congo river, he talked and talked — of fighting, of the mysteries of the universe, of people "up there," of the light-skinned women he liked, and on the tortures of prolonged sexual abstinence while preparing for "the monster, Foreman."

What was his finest asset apart from his talent, guts and ability to take a punch? One word captures the Ali secret: NERVE. Although "distracted with fear" in the early moments of his first fight with the glowering Liston Muhammad Ali went sideways, backwards and round and round as if he was on ball bearings. "I was like Colum-

A third comeback?

MUHAMMAD ALI announced his retirement from boxing to follow the Muslim faith almost as if it were a spiritual confession.

I believe his statement to leave the ring while undefeated world heavyweight champion is at this moment as sincere as any religious vow to renounce the outside world.

Ali announced his retirement in Turkey and it is typical of the man to break the biggest news in sport when he was far from the reach of the hostile American critics who labelled his close points verdict over Ken Norton "a steal."

I shall be disappointed but not astounded if he is back again in two months, three months, perhaps a year.

There is too the possibility, however remote, that the "retirement" is to force the reluctant Ken Norton to fight George Foreman for the vacant title.

That would leave the way open for Ali to make more ring history by returning to become the first man to win the world heavyweight title for the third time.

The decision itself comes as no surprise after the gloomy scenes in the Yankee Stadium dressing

room after that one point win over Norton.

My mind flashed back to the last time I heard a world heavyweight champion talk of retirement in those same surroundings.

Rocky Marciano spoke of hanging up his gloves after he had come close to defeat before knocking out Archie Moore in the ninth round almost 21 years ago to the day.

That grim evening Marciano told me: "My wife wants me to retire. My mother wants me to retire. I'm thinking of it seriously."

It was the Rock's 49th fight and he never fought again.

With Ali the pressure has come not from family, certainly not from the grumpy trainful of freeloaders, but from his religious leader Wallace Muhammad who requested the retirement when they both attended a press conference in Istanbul.

I hope Ali will make this permanent and retire as the greatest boxer of all time.

Ali will be aided by the fact that he has immediate uses for his brilliant talents.

His target now should be to become "The Greatest" on stage, screen and television.

— SYDNEY HULLS



Has he really hung up his boots? That's the big question. Ali rests between fights at London's Heathrow Airport "tired and solemn." My goal now is to spread the Muslim belief, he told reporters.

ous, travelling into unknown territory."

Of course, he has faults. He can be capricious and cruel, but he is also capable of spontaneous acts of kindness like the 100,000 dollars he donated to a Negro rehabilitation programme and the 150,000 dollars he gave to an old ladies' home in New York after watching an appeal on TV. He squandered far too much money too, on some of the idle slobs who lived off him for so long.

Nevertheless, there never has been a man like him in world

sport, and I doubt if we shall ever see one like him again.

Now, provided he sticks to his decision — and despite the 10 million dollars bait of one last battle with Foreman — I believe he is moving into new spheres of power.

"When I retire," he said the other day in New York, "I shall put on my business suit and tie, pick up my briefcase and become the black Kissinger."

I, for one, would not bet against it. The remarkable reflexes may have gone but the VOICE, loud and persuasive, is still there.

In this extract from his autobiography, *Cricket Rebel*, being serialised in the London Evening Standard, England fast bowler John Snow discusses the controversy surrounding his collision with India's Sunil Gavaskar at Lord's in 1971

Furore at Lord's

NONE of the incidents in which I have been involved caused as much furore as that day at Lord's in the summer of 1971, when India's little opening batsman, Sunil Gavaskar, bit the dust

I shall never forget that clash of bodies, or all the fuss it caused. No doubt, many millions who saw it on television will never forget the slow-motion version

I was wrong. I realised that as soon as my shoulder came into contact with Gavaskar. In that instant, I could imagine the horror on the faces of everybody watching the game from the committee room at Lord's, and on a few more faces besides

But I don't think the incident would have provoked all the arguments and fuss if it had not been for the television cameras and their slow-motion replays

The bodily contact between us was over in a flash. On the replays, it took a minute or two to go through the whole scene and allow the full impact to register

For a long time, footballers have been complaining of trial by television, with replays showing foul tackles in close-up and in great detail. The footballers have not tried to excuse their offences by the fact that they often look worse than they are when seen out of context

I, too, do not excuse my action, except to say that I had no intention of knocking Gavaskar over

I was quite prepared to accept what punishment was coming my way and fully accept that the authorities — whoever they were — had no alternative but to be seen to act after what had been shown on television

What upset me were the scenes of near hysteria in the England dressing room at the lunch interval when heated demands were made that I should apologise to Gavaskar immediately

The actual incident was only



DRAWING KEN TAYLOR

part of the trouble. What apparently had inflamed many officials was the fact that I tossed the bat to Gavaskar afterwards, instead of handing it to him in a so-called gentlemanly way

Let me take you through the scene as I saw it during that over just before lunch on the final day, with India making their bid for victory. They had taken a first innings lead of nine runs when scoring 313, and had bowled us out for 191 in our second innings, which left them needing 183 for victory

India were 21 for two, and in serious trouble. Farokh Engineer was promoted to join Gavaskar and immediately started a counter-attack. The partnership had more than doubled the score when I began that troublesome over

Engineer was facing me and he turned one delivery on the leg side only a yard or so off the actual wicket. He called for a sharp single

There was no fielder near enough to threaten the single. Only me, falling away to the other side of the wicket as I continued on my follow through

Engineer was safe. The only man in possible danger was Gavaskar if I could get to the ball and take a pot shot at the wicket at the batsman's end

My follow through had taken me ahead of Gavaskar, of course, but, with the ball being on the opposite side of the wicket to me, I suppose we were about equal distance from it when I started to change direction and Gavaskar began to respond urgently to Engineer's shout

As I went for the ball, the first thing that went through my mind was that Gavaskar would do the one thing all batsmen are taught and expected to do when they find themselves in that type of situation. Namely, to run over the ball

— which was in his path — and so baulk the attempt by the fielder to pick it up

It was going to be a close race as to who reached the ball first. So I thought I expected some bodily contact and steelled myself as I neared the ball. In fact, I did more than that. I made sure I would get it, and that proved my undoing

The physical challenge from Gavaskar — yes, all 5ft 4in of him — never came. Instead of trying to run over the ball, he ran wider of the wicket to avoid me. By "pushing" over to my right I went that way as well. Unbalanced, I was in no position to pick up the ball and merely crashed into Gavaskar instead

The moment I made contact and Gavaskar started to fall I could sense the shocked silence in the MCC committee room

I knew I was going to be in trouble. For a moment I did not know what to do while Gavaskar picked himself up. Then I saw his bat in front of me and, after he had brushed himself down, I picked it up and gently tossed it to him. We were no more than a yard apart. I could quite easily have taken a step and handed it to him, but it seemed such a natural act to spin it to him the way kids spin a bat to decide who is going to bat or bowl

I cannot recall whether any words passed between us at that moment. I don't mean angry words. I was not angry with him nor he with me

He looked a little startled, perhaps — and no wonder. The only words I can remember were those of umpire David Constant, who came down the wicket and said to me: "Come on now, we can't have any of that"

I finished the over which took us up to lunch, but by that time I expect I had already been found

continued on p 31

THE ART OF CRICKET

The stance

ONCE again I refuse to lay down any hard and fast unalterable rules, because Test players have been successful with quite different stances. However, there are certain principles which can be enunciated.

The main purpose of this initial position when awaiting delivery of the ball is to be in such a comfortably relaxed and well-balanced position that you are able to go forward or back, attack or defend, with equal speed.

The knees should be slightly relaxed. It is a mistake to crouch right over or to stand completely erect.

My feet were about six inches apart and that the weight was equally distributed.

Quite a large number of players stand with their feet together. I don't like it because I am certain it militates against balance and speed of movement and, in fact, necessitates a preliminary change of foot position to obtain proper balance before one can move into a stroke.

The rear foot should be at least a couple of inches behind the batting crease. This is to allow for a slight drag when playing forward. Remember the foot must be behind the crease to avoid a stumping. On the line is out.

The front foot should be parallel to the batting crease and some three inches in front of it. Should the front toe be turned slightly towards cover that would not be wrong.

Looking down the pitch from the bowler's end, the batsman's toes should be just about in line with the leg stump.

I allowed my bat to rest on the ground between my feet simply because it was a comfortable and natural position.

It is regarded as more orthodox to teach a pupil to rest his bat just behind the right toe.

This position encourages a straighter back lift, is perhaps sounder for defensive play, but I feel it has greater limitations in versatile stroke making.

The batting gloves should rest lightly against the left pad. There is a possibility that the batting glove may get caught in the top of the pad. For this reason I always lifted my wrists and patted the pitch at least once in taking up my stance to ensure the hands were completely free.

As mentioned earlier this might be likened to what is termed a preliminary "waggle" in golf.

Cricket, too, possesses its "waggles" or mannerisms.

There are many photographs of Sir Jack Hobbs, waiting for the ball to be delivered, with his front

by SIR DONALD
BRADMAN



heel on the ground but his toe in the air. I remember seeing him do this repeatedly in the days when I played against him.

But before the ball was delivered he would pat the ground with his bat and return to an evenly balanced position.

W. G. Grace had a similar mannerism. In fact Sir Jack may have copied him. I sense in it a means

of reducing tension — which is a good thing.

Dear old Phil Mead touched his cap to the square-leg umpire then patted the ground four times and took four tiny shuffling steps to his position before every ball. It was just part of his method of becoming relaxed and comfortable.

The left shoulder should be pointing down the pitch or very nearly so, with the head turned so that both eyes are clearly focused on the bowler.

One often hears about the two-eyed stance. This is a misnomer. What people really mean is a stance where the shoulders are turned so that the chest is facing the bowler. A chesty stance is wrong because it prevents the batsman getting into the correct driving position. But obviously nobody would be silly enough to try to watch the bowler with one eye only.

I think it extremely important to keep the head as still as possible during the bowler's run up and even during one's movement into a shot.

That may sound absurd, for obviously the head must move if the body does. But I mean to convey the impression that there should be no lobbying or weaving about and that any jerky movement which might cause a batsman to take his eye off the flight of the ball is dangerous.

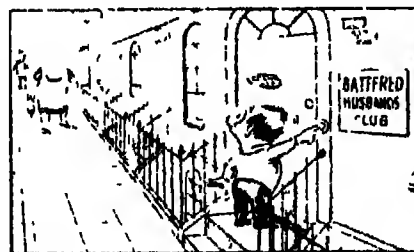
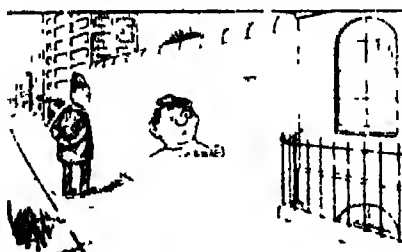
Perhaps I should exclude the case where one has to duck quickly to avoid a bumper, but I'll deal with that later.

Concentrate the eyes on the ball and it is surprising how natural the body movement becomes.

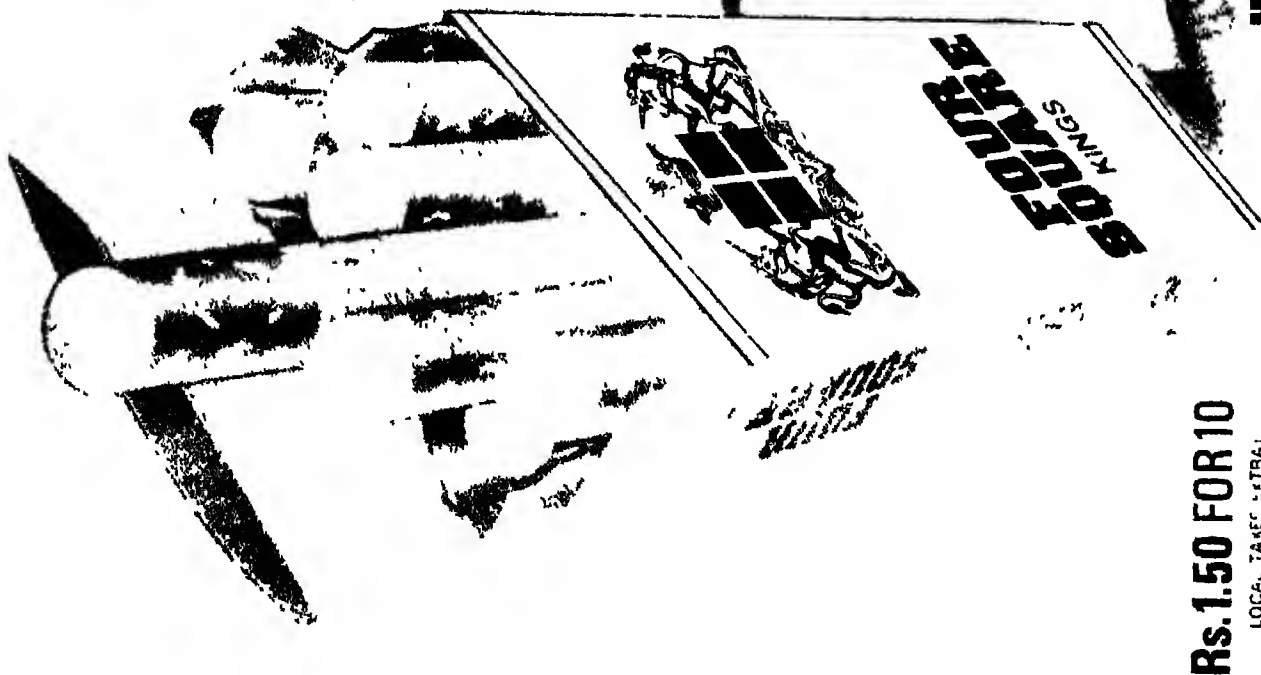
Once again comfort and relaxation are the key words.

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(to be continued)

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THE BERRY SARBADHIKARY COLUMN

THE Education Ministry's guidelines in limiting the tenure of office-bearers in national sports federations and/or associations were no doubt prompted by the "perennial" presidents of the IOA, Bhalindra Singh AIFP's M Datta Ray, IFF's Aswini Kumar and their alleged cliques entrenching themselves. In decades, their motto perhaps being "self before service" to the cause of sports under their charge. The list is longer but these examples will suffice. The main objection was not their long terms—but their abject failure, wittingly or unwittingly, to deliver the goods.

On the other hand, there are distinguished instances of no power loving, honest, unselfish and respected administrators such as Sir Francis Lacey who was paid secretary of the MCC for about a quarter of a century, followed by Col R S Ratkern for well over a decade. In soccer Sir Stanley Rous was with the FA (England) for years and years until he became FIFA president. Back home also we have such men, but let us today stick to only two.

1) P. D. Poddala who has been associated with Indian and international athletics for so long, and there is absolutely nothing he does not know about it at home fell under the "axe". But the International Amateur Athletic Federation would have none of it, they did override India's recommendations and chose the very knowledgeable and respected Poddala instead. And what about BCA president, S K Wankhede who has already done so much for sports in Maharashtra? Will he also be a victim to the restriction duly when, as expected, he goes higher up?

In a vast country like ours with nepotism abounding in sports, the guidelines have become imperative unless we have also a sports "CBI". The AICS should know who is who, and what is what. And my plea is to have a rider to the guidelines and to extend the term in the case of good, honest, active office bearers, according to the recommendations of "watch-dog," the AICS. This should be good for the promotion and development of Indian sports. When things are going well, frequent administrative changes can be harmful.

The other day Prime Minister (Indira Gandhi), commenting on India's lack of success in the in-

Guidelines and schemes

ternational sports arena, observed rightly that India has the talent but the effort is not quite there. To which one may be permitted to add that the requisite "machinery" for sports development is also wanting.

Not that we have had no NSNIS at Patiala, or the College of Physical Education at Gwalior, and such-like on a smaller scale at other places. But the point I have been trying to make for a long long time is that the 'perspective' has generally been all wrong. NIS Patiala was originally designed for "coaching of coaches". Foreign coaches were inducted for almost brief periods, and at the end of their assignment, certificates of various descriptions were handed over to the Indian coaches, many of whom were substandard. Believe me. Later, NIS was used for various purposes, including training of Indian teams going abroad. It became a sort of hotch potch. And not all of those in charge of the NIS if not quite greenhorns did not always make the grade.

True, the Government spent a lot of money and more and more



is being allocated to development of sports today. The Montreal fiasco, our alarmingly poor show at the Merdeka soccer festival, Indian cricket teams' failure to win a Test series of late must have rung us to the quick — which is a good thing. Apart from the Central Government's concern, almost every other day, the papers carry schemes from Uman Singh's Punjab down to Karnataka — from Maharashtra to West Bengal, indeed from all over, mostly sensible, with accent on youth.

Once again schemes are all right but these to be meaningful, their implementation is of vital consequence. The first requisite is the hand-picking of really competent coaches (Indians, of course) at all levels, and making available more playing grounds as far as practicable. It goes without saying, that discipline and honesty must be our watchword, all round.

From New Delhi comes the news of appointment of coaches for the various games mostly from abroad except for cricket, rightly, which is more than self-sufficient. Not so long ago, the new AIF president, Nurul Amin observed that foreign coaches are not quite suitable to train the Indian soccerites. His reasons were reasonably cogent, too. It is a bit surprising therefore we have opted for a foreign coach, mercifully from the European continent. Thank God not the like of Harry Wright!

Going back to sports nepotism, it is indeed a shame that the police are investigating financial "irregularities" of the late Santosh Trophy held at Calicut which, reportedly, netted them an all time high of Rs 22 lakh. The police suspects, among other things, "inflation" of expenditures — and the fact remains that the accounts have not been ready yet, far less audited. There may or may not be anything to it, but that the police has thought it fit to step in regarding financial matters cannot be a compliment to the Calicut organisers. Yes, guidelines, for sure!

The Indian Cricket Board have rightly decided to have their HQ in Bombay, the acknowledged "Home of India Cricket". But a suggestion that they should be located at the Brabourne Stadium is unarguable, to say the least, especially after building of the Wankhede Stadium. Never have the Indian Board needed to have a stadium of their own — as they delegate authority to stage Test matches and other in the State Associations, in this case, the BCA. It would have been another matter had Anthony de Mello's CCI become the MCC of India, and the CCI and the BCA lived in close and honourable amity. That was not to be — the bus has been missed, for good!

How many hits to a ball?

An interesting incident occurred in the Rani Trophy match between Tamil Nadu and Andhra in Calicut recently. It involves a question of interpretation of the law relating to hitting the ball twice which, so far, I know, has not arisen so far in India.

Battling first on a matting pitch Andhra were all out for 218 on the first day. Tamil Nadu were pressed hard by the pace bowling of H. Ramprasad and Varma. They ended the first day at 51 for three wickets. On resumption they continued to falter and would have been in a poor way but for a battling century by Ramesh. They lost their seventh wicket at 70. The next wicket fell at 218. There was no question of any "bonus" point for first scoring.

But for the ninth wicket Bharat Reddy and Kalvasasundaram delivered a violent onslaught on the Andhra bowling. Adding 78 in only 31 minutes before Venkataraghavan closed the innings at 116 for eight wickets at tea. As can be easily believed, Bharat Reddy and Kalvasasundaram baited with extreme freedom against bowlers who visibly wilted under the onslaught. The former, who kept wicket for India in an unofficial "Test" against Sri Lanka in Nagpur last season, hit six boundaries and an overthrown five in his 51 not out. His partner, so unexpectedly a success as a batsman, hit five boundaries in his unbeaten 31.

When Bharat Reddy was 42 and the total 306 for eight wickets, a ball which Ramprasad was bowling slipped from his hand and came to rest a few feet from him on the on-side. Bharat Reddy came running to it to exercise his right of hitting it. He swung his bat at it, but failed to achieve contact. He made another hit and this time succeeded. The batsmen took a run. The Andhra players appealed against Bharat Reddy. The umpire rejected the appeal and the game proceeded.

These are the facts. On what grounds the Andhra players appealed against Bharat Reddy did not transpire at the moment. But from later conversations with some of them I learnt that they thought that the batsman had hit the ball twice.

So far as I know, we have read there has been no other instance of a batsman in a similar situation failing to hit a static ball. I once saw Lawry hit a ball from Smith in the boundary in a Calcutta Test. The Australian had no

The question is whether a batsman can legally attempt to hit the ball, static or otherwise, twice. A situation could arise, a comic one at that, of a flustered batsman aiming blow after blow at the sitting ball with the fielders waiting until he gains contact.

Though the laws do not say so explicitly, it is a reasonable conclusion that they warrant only one aim, whether it results in a stroke or not.



Bharat Reddy achieved the impossible

difficulty in despatching the ball to the ropes with a kind of hockey shot. Winged winds passed between him and the bowler who applauded him ironically. But the fact is irrelevant.

The question is whether a batsman in Bharat Reddy's situation could legally attempt to hit the ball more than once. It has not arisen before probably because no batsman is likely to fail to hit a static ball with a bat so broad as the cricket one. But Bharat Reddy did achieve the impossible. Was he out or not, and if he was out under what law?

It has been suggested that he was in the position of a batsman who, missing a stroke against a

slow ball, recovers to play it again. This batsman, of course, is not out. But I think the analogy is false. The two situations are not comparable. In any case, such a situation can arise but must infrequently. It cannot be made the basis of a law. It is merely an aberration.

If Bharat Reddy missed his aim the second time, would he be justified in making a third attempt? It is easy to see that were this argument carried to its logical conclusion, the situation would become farcical. The comic vision arises of a flustered batsman aiming blow after blow at the sitting ball and meanwhile the field waiting until at last he should gain contact.

Though the laws do not say so explicitly, it is a reasonable conclusion that they warrant only one aim. Whether it results in a stroke or not must be immaterial. For a ball to slip out of a bowler's hand is a fortuitous incident and perhaps in earlier times when the game was not so rigorous the batsman would have magnanimously foregone the advantage of four cheap and it must be confessed unworthy runs. But that he should be given more than one chance is incredible. Though the laws do not say so, they must sanction only one aim and no more.

In this view Bharat Reddy did hit the ball twice, his first attempt, though it made no contact with the ball, being regarded as the initial contact. Law 17 states that the batsman may not hit a ball twice, except for the sole purpose of guarding his wicket which he may do with his bat or any part of his person other than his hands.

There is another interesting question. Could Bharat Reddy have been given out for obstructing the field? The second note to Law 17 states, "A batsman may not attempt to hit the ball twice if in so doing he hinders the wicketkeeper or any fieldman attempting to make a catch."

Would any of the fieldsmen have been justified in retrieving the ball after Bharat Reddy's first infructuous attempt and thrown it to the wicketkeeper for the latter to stump the batsman, who had left the crease to hit the ball, and not take a run?

C. Ramaswami, the former Test batsman, believes that Bharat Reddy was out under both the laws, 17 and 10.

-SANJAYA

PROFILE

SAMBARAN BANERJEE is a lively, dapper young man of 22 whose job with Indian Tube Company requires him to rise high — for his office is on the 16th storey of one of Calcutta's tallest buildings. His cricketing ambition is similarly lofty: get into the India team, and stay there. You can say he's half way there—he's in the Rest of India team for the Irani Trophy.

And no one who saw this wicket-keeper in action in Bengal's key Ranji Trophy ties versus Karnataka in 1974/75 and against Bombay last season could say he hasn't the potential to achieve such an aim.

Two other S Banerjees — "Shute" and "Montu" — already figure in the Test cricketers' roster, and Sambaran Banerjee took a primary step towards joining them when he kept for the India Schools XI in the first "Test" against Ceylon schoolboys at Bombay in December 1969. He scored 30 and 37 as well, but then a finger injury sidelined him.

The youngest of a family of six brothers and five sisters, Sambaran Banerjee was born in Assam — at Kazungang — on the first day of November 1953, but he's lived in the south Calcutta suburb of Tollymore for as long as he can remember. Even as a kid, he preferred to be behind the stumps, and he made his League debut in 1966/67, for YMCA (College) in the second division.

He represented Bengal Schools for three years from 1967/68 before entering college in 1970 but since he worked briefly for South Eastern Railway before joining IICO in '72 Banerjee didn't get to play for Calcutta University. He finished his B Com in '73 and is now



Sambaran Banerjee

studying for his law degree which makes him eligible for selection in a Combined Varsity XI. Except for a year when he turned out for BNR, Banerjee's club has been Mohun Bagan, whom he led in 1975/76.

Banerjee's Ranji debut was versus Assam at the Eden in '73/74, and the next season he established himself in the Bengal team. Last season he set a new State record bagging 23 victims (20 caught, 3 stumped) in five matches, had Bengal been able to make the final he might well have overtaken the Ranji record of 27 victims captured by Delhi's Inderjit Singh in seven matches the previous season.

But more than impressive statistics, what marks Sambaran Banerjee out as an India prospect is his fluent, assured style. And Bengal's varied attack has helped his development. Last December young Banerjee entered the East Zone XI for the Duleep tie versus the North,

and could progress far beyond 1976/77.

Already, there are some observers who rate him among the three top keepers in the country.

At 5'6 1/2" (he weighs 155 kg) Sambaran Banerjee is on the small built side but his athletic keeping is proof of his splendid fitness. Banerjee likes hockey, table tennis and swimming as his other sports — and these help him keep in trim.

Banerjee's batting, too, is pretty useful. He was No. 3 in the order on his Ranji debut, and against Bombay this year he batted quite well in making 48 and 45 as an opener in the first knock-out.

But it is purely on the strength of his prowess behind the stumps that this smiling, modest young man who reads and collects sports books should proceed towards his goal of Test selection.

SUBROTO GHOSAL

STATISTICIANS CORNER

by B. P. MAHA

	T	I	NO	R	HS	Avg	100's	50's	Ct	St	R	M	B	W	Avg	100's	50's	Bt
PRASANNA, E. A. S																		
v England	9	17	2	132	37	8.80	—	—	2	—	2079	57	938	12	16.75	—	—	10
v Australia	9	16	2	177	26	12.64	—	—	4	—	3251	141	1338	51	26.6	—	—	1
v West Indies	11	19	6	163	25	12.53	—	—	4	—	3115	125	1170	34	11.6	—	—	0
v New Zealand	10	14	4	101	25*	10.10	—	—	5	—	2960	112	110	55	20.12	—	—	5.75
	39	66	14	573	37	11.01	—	—	15	—	11505	471	1813	101	26.38	—	—	16.75
SHARMA, P.																		
v West Indies	3	6	—	125	54	20.83	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
SOLKAR, E. D																		
v England	11	21	—	451	75	25.05	—	3	21	—	761	31	331	7	17.8	—	—	—
v Australia	4	7	—	178	44	29.66	—	—	10	—	387	20	162	1	24.00	—	—	—
v West Indies	10	16	—	421	102	28.66	1	3	20	—	1062	29	550	8	68.75	—	—	—
v New Zealand	1	2	—	13	13*	13.00	—	—	1	—	18	1	8	—	—	—	—	—
	26	46	6	1063	102	26.57	1	6	52	—	2220	81	1053	18	58.61	—	—	—

i am Mohini

They say I have the energy and I have the enthusiasm
They say - but hell with what they say! who cares
for what the world says I like Shri Ambica Group
Dress Material because it obeys my whims,
and commands all the attention I like it
because it understands me so well—more than
my parents And understands me intimately



**SHRI AMBICA MILLS
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SIDHAN AG 24

Pele: The Master and His Method

Dribbling Skills

Enter way of dribbling the ball past a opponent



First move: Pele fakes a sharp turn to his left, drawing his opponent off balance, then quickly moves. The ball is kept right by planting it with the outside of his right foot.



Second move: As the opponent moves in contact, Pele pushes the ball forward with his right foot, and moves forward and the ball is in front of him.



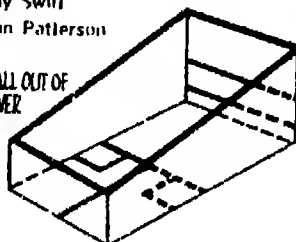
Third move: Pele chooses the ball to his advantage, he starts up in the air and is in the air of an opponent moving in contact.

Learn to play squash—21

Rules on service

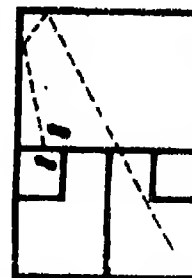
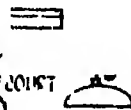
Words by Britain's senior national coach, Tony Swift
Techniques by Bryan Patterson

IF THE SERVER HITS THE BALL OUT OF COURT THAT IS IF THE SERVER HITS THE SIDEWALL, FRONT WALL OR BACK WALL OR ABOVE THE TOP LIMITING COURT LINE IT IS A DOUBLE FAULT



OUT OF COURT INCLUDES THE BALL GOING OVER ANY PERMANENT ROOF FEATURES ALTHOUGH ONE EXCEPTION CONCERNS THE LIGHTS

A = IN PLAY
B = OUT OF COURT
C = IN PLAY



IF THE BALL IS HIT INTO THE TIN IT IS A HANDOUT, OR IF THE BALL HITS THE SIDE WALL FIRST IT IS ALSO A DOUBLE FAULT

CAUTION: DO NOT THROW THE BALL AT THE WALL

Let us look at how a service is lost by serving a double fault, known as serving your hand out.

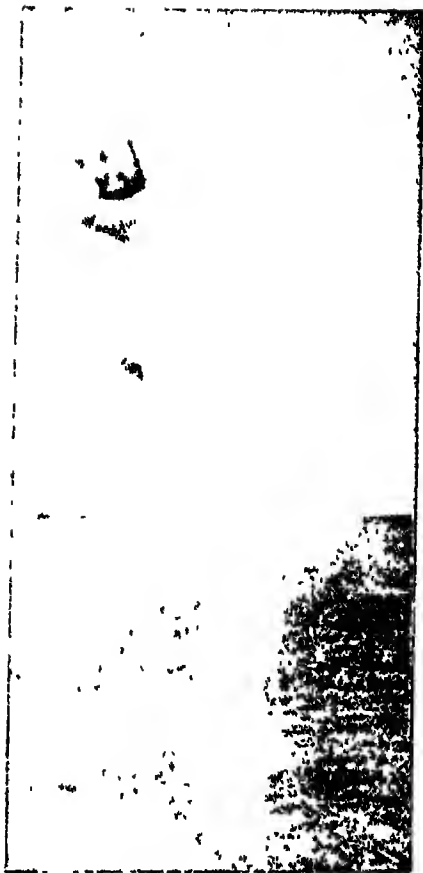
First two consecutive single faults would be hand out.

The ways in which these faults can occur are illustrated above.

Also if the server throws the ball up and misses it this is a double fault. The rules state that the ball must hit the front wall before any other surface, and in this instance the ball strikes the floor first.

Lastly, if the ball, having been served, hits the front wall and rebounds to hit the server, the server loses the rally and it is hand out.

Techniques in this series are demonstrated by a left-hander, but apply equally to a right-hander.



Sportraits

mini-portraits of maxi-stars...

says, but admits to having spent hours perfecting the rhythm. Unlike other spinners he does not have problems such as sore spinning fingers or aching joints.

So it is not surprising to learn that as the instinct to spin grew quickly, his stamina developed alongside, and the young man who took to the game at the comparatively late age of 13 found himself in the first class arena two years later.

Attack is the pass word for this tough-minded cricketer. I have never bowled defensively, he shot back when asked if he altered his style for attack and defence. Nor does he mind being hit. In fact, he prefers the batsmen to play their shots, so that he can get them out.

"I want them to use their feet and come down the pitch. It becomes a better game to watch

never fails to speak up for them. And they in turn would fight to the last for him.

Tony Greig in his book "Cricketer -- the men and the game" pays Bedi a handsome tribute. He writes: "A colourful character, Bedi is a true sportsman — a man who can applaud a good shot of his own bowling. He's a fine bloke, a tough competitor in his own quiet way, and a great spinner. Add all this to his smooth approach and free flowing left arm action and there's little wonder that with his seemingly unbendable temperament Bedi is a world-beater."

"Bedi has the classical flop and he gives the ball a real nip. He has a quicker ball, a drifter, a big spin ball and an arm ball. Bishen Bedi has the lot. He can bowl you four different deliveries right on the spot every over."

"Bedi's temperament adds the caviar. You never really know it

BISHEN SINGH BEDI

by A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

I don't want to compare myself with players from the past. I don't want to depend on anyone else. I don't want to be an imitator. No one has spoken a truth word.

Bedi's brilliant, his mesmerising slow left arm bowling, is based on his personal philosophy. Tony Greig once wrote: "He bowls to get wickets by deceiving batsmen, trapping them into false shots, crowding their batsmen, but carefully placing the ball to trap the one that looks like a thing away."

He was never formally taught the bowling skills. But he admits that the best piece of advice he has ever had came from his college captain who told him to do what he could best. He experimented in those days with chinamen and googlies, adding that they all worked in that style.

And he has learnt to play within his limitations. That he says is vital to cricket. His own limitation came to him when he realised that he was not a fast bowler. I can bowl them out as I want to. I don't know why this is.

When he speaks of his nation, he

then. What I am trying to do is to keep the ball well up to the bat and turn it. If the batsman cuts me or pulls me then I have bowled a bad ball because it is short. I want to get him driving on the front foot. I try to make each delivery a little different from the one before.

"You have to be patient. I am prepared to wait for my wickets. I do not get tense or upset when I see chances missed. I will usually make a joke of it. In fact, I say little on the field. I never swear and I don't like people swearing at me. Bowling all day never tires me. I have an easy action and I am supple in my upper body. I take exercises and my yoga training helps me."

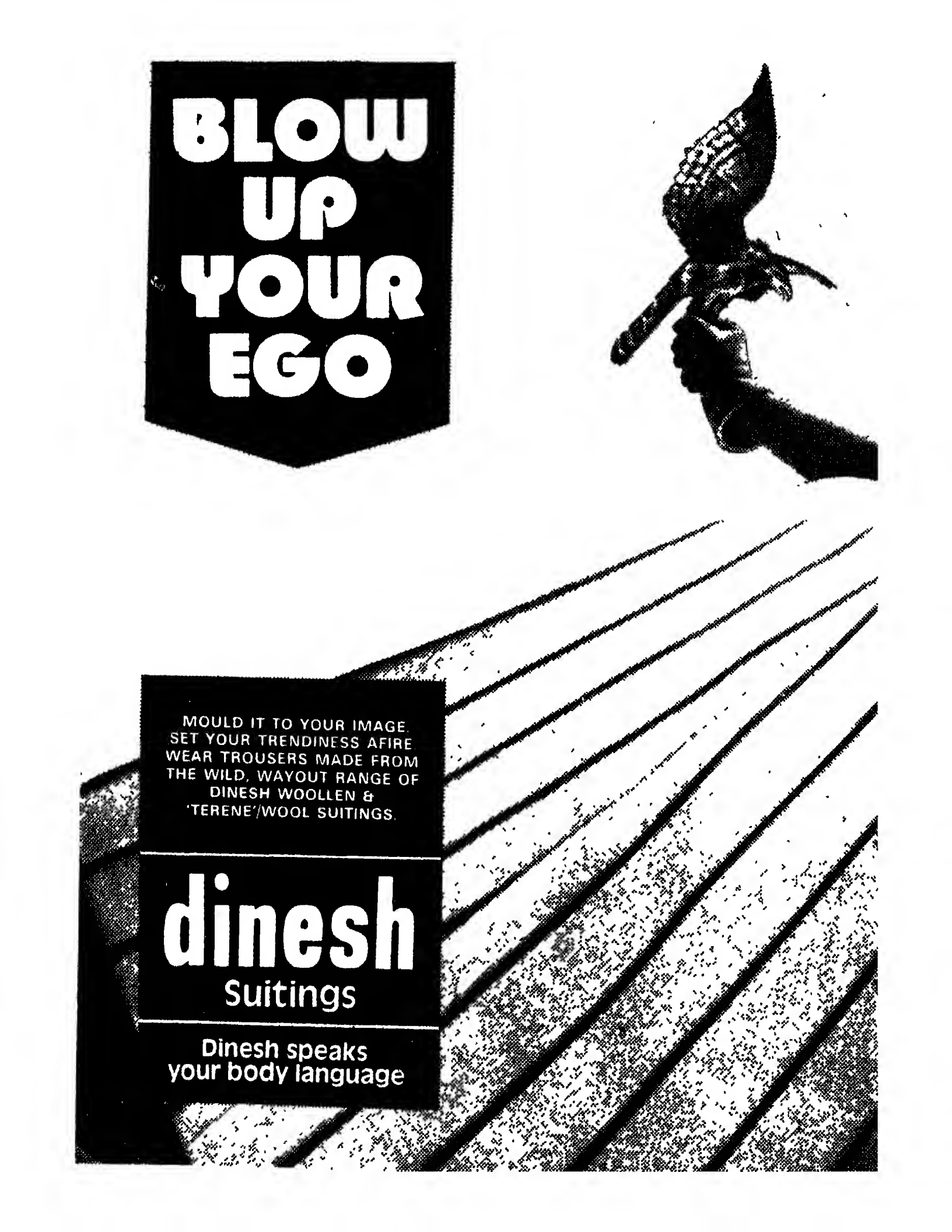
As a captain, Bedi has yet to show signs of any tactical brilliance, but from all accounts he is a good leader. He has welded the Indian team into a tough-minded fighting force as can be seen from the last two tours of New Zealand and the West Indies. Team-spirit is as it never was before and this is due mainly to Bedi. He is a players man and

you're getting on top because he just as likely to mess you up at a time when you think you are sitting pretty. If Bedi sees you hitting in an area where he believes you're playing with fire, he'll let you go knowing he'll eventually get you.

"Like the other Indian spinners, Bedi has been blessed with tremendous support from close to the wicket fielders in Venkat and Solkar. That's a priceless asset close to the bat and around the corner. I've often been asked whether Bedi is a better bowler in India than anywhere else in the world. I've always answered that it doesn't matter — Bedi can bowl brilliantly anywhere, and at any time. He's at his best when the breeze comes in from the third man area, allowing his left armers to drift in. From there Bedi can either straighten the ball up, or let it carry on towards the leg side end on."

Bedi's light footed skip to the wicket is one of the game's most aesthetic features in the game today. Here is perfection, an original, bowling in his own style.





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YOUR
EGO**

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Spotlight on youth

FOR one who took to the game only four years back, 16-year-old R. Nagarajan's rise in Tamil Nadu junior table tennis has been phenomenal. Seeded fourth last year in Tamil Nadu, Nagarajan has won all four junior titles at stake in Madras with ease.

Born and brought up a stone's throw from the Madras Mylapore Gymkhana, the nursery of many a table tennis star, it is natural that Nagarajan should have taken to the game. With national coach Thiruvengadam around, Nagarajan received all the encouragement and motivation he needed from his parents as well as the coach who is a family friend. If Nagarajan today has a neat game, full credit should go to the coach who drilled him in the fundamentals.

Nagarajan tasted success for the first time when he helped his school Raja Muthiah High School win the Madras City Inter School Championship. As a member of the Tamil Nadu junior squad at the January Nationals under R. Hari's captaincy, he lost to Mukesh Jain the third seed in the prequarter

R. Nagarajan



finals of the junior singles event in spite of leading 2-0.

Nagarajan, partnering Hari, won the coveted Fairs junior doubles title in 1975. Runner-up to R. Hari (National Junior Champion) in last year's Tamil Nadu state championships, this year, Nagarajan is virtually unchallenged now and is set

to bag many more titles in the city.

Natarajan works hard at his game. He spends three hours every day at practice. He believes in practising throughout the year except during the examination season.

His forte is his topspin which he has been executing with a fair degree of consistency lately, along with a variety of services. Nevertheless, there are a few chunks in his armour which should be eliminated if he is to move up the ladder of success. Besides his stamina is suspect.

Academically, Nagarajan is a bright student. A pre-university student of Vivekananda College, Madras, Nagarajan intends to become an engineer. Unassuming Nagarajan, who says he has no idols as such, confesses to a special liking for Maupit Duas's game. The player who has impressed him most is Shiko Ichi of Japan whom he saw in action two years back in Madras.

-- PRABHAKAR JACOB

Cricketers of the week—20

BIRTHS

October 10 J. M. Taylor (Aus) 1895, G. E. Gomez (WI) 1919, H. B. Cave (NZ) 1912, S. R. Patel (Ind) 1933, A. I. Dick (NZ) 1936, D. R. Pithey (SA) 1936.

October 11 J. G. Dewes (Eng) 1926, K. D. Bovee (WI) 1943.

October 12 F. R. Martin (WI) 1893, V. M. Merchant (Ind) 1911, W. G. A. Parkhouse (Eng) 1925.

Ashok Mankad (Ind) 1946.

October 13 B. J. T. Bosanquet (Eng) 1877, J. A. Snow (Eng) 1941.

October 14 C. W. L. Parker (Eng) 1884, S. K. Coen (SA) 1902, J. F. Crapp (Eng) 1912, J. A. Young (Eng) 1912, H. I. Dollery (Eng) 1914, U. M. Merchant (Ind) 1916, D. T. Ring (Aus) 1918.

October 15 X. Balaskas (SA) 1910, Gul Mohammed (Ind) 1921.

J. G. Binks (Eng) 1935, C. Camacho (WI) 1945, P. Salgaonkar (Ind) 1949.

October 15 R. M. H. Cottam (Eng) 1914.

DEATHS

October 12 B. J. T. Bosanquet (Eng) 1936.

October 13 C. S. Marriott (Eng) 1966.

October 14 G. V. Gurn (Eng) 1937.

-- K. ISWARA DULI

How much do you know?

1. What are the dimensions of a kho-kho field?
2. How many shuttlecocks are required to balance a pound weight?
3. How is the final score derived in gymnastics?
4. In football, an attacker is tripped by the opposing defender but recovers immediately and continues to develop an attack towards the opponent's goal. Should the referee award a free kick?
5. A lady in a flowing sari is

playing ball badminton, and while making a stroke near the net her sari brushes the net. What should be the umpire's decision?

6. Can a professional tennis player participate in the Indian Weightlifting Championships?

7. In chess, can the King move to a square that is attacked by an opponent's piece?

ANSWERS

1. 34 m x 16 m lobby on all four sides. 2. Eighty-two to 92 as each shuttle weighs between 73 and 85 grains. 3. The final score is the

average of the two middle scores of the four judges. 4. No. Apply the advantage clause and allow play to continue. 5. It is a fault. 6. No. The lifter must not be, or have been, a professional, semi-professional or so-called 'non-amateur' in any sport. 7. No.

HARD THIS ONE?

His cheerful wife asked 'Did you win today darling?'

'Don't be silly darling. I was playing the boss.'

KNOW YOUR STARS.

OTHER goalkeepers have been amazed at the way I bounce back from injuries serious enough to write finis to my career. For my part I have never been despondent. My faith that the Almighty will guide me back to fitness and the field has always borne me through difficult periods of forced rest.

But it has not always been easy to keep this faith. Especially after the last National at Calcutta in December-January. On my return I had to undergo a knee operation and the doctors told me that I may give up all hope of playing again. I had to rest, could have no practice even. But I was hoping against hope that the doctors would be proved wrong.

Then Lady Luck smiled on me. If I may say so. For, my colleague, Bhaskar Maity, also was injured and could not stand in our goal. So I came back into the side for the last Rovers Cup. In between matches an X-ray of my knee was taken. Water from it also was removed. I played the games with a heavy tight bandage, which did hamper my movements somewhat. But my rivals never knew of my predicament. With each round I gained more and more confidence till in the final against East Bengal I had my best match of the tournament, though we lost.

Last season was a good one for my team as we had shared the Nadkarni Cup and regained the Harwood League, besides our fine performances in the D.C.M. We would have played the final against Han Yang University team from South Korea had we converted our chances in the first meeting in the semi-final against East Bengal.

We reached the semi-final against all expectations. We shocked star-studded Mohammedan Sporting, who had Habib and Akhtar in their attack, besides internationals D. Nataraj and Chaudan Gupta and Azeez in midfield. Indeed many rated the Mohammedans the best side in the last D.C.M., save the South Koreans.

The crop of injuries that affected Matatal towards the end of last season made our officials shy from entering too many tournaments in the south. But we played in the Nehru Trophy at Ernakulam. In the very first game there I injured my hand, but played on with great pain. Our new recruit, Jayakar Singh, took over for later games—we lost in the final, and I went to Trichur to a masseur who has the reputation of having helped many stalwarts overcome knee injuries. He drained off all the fluid

Victor Saldanha



in my knee with massage and now I have not even a trace of the trouble that had bothered me for the best part of the last season.

I do not know what my employers feel about my usefulness to them, though their kindness has encouraged me to believe that they think well of me. Since I joined them in 1973 from Mahindra and Mahindra I have not been fully fit for even one complete season. A knee injury in the match against the Indian XI for the Merdeka that year put me out for six months and I came back only for the Durand, in which we lost in the semi-final. The next year I broke my shoulder bone in the match against the Indian team that was going to Russia, and that meant another six months on the sidelines, which extended well into the next season.

But in the two matches before the super league of the Harwood League and in all the games in the super league I did well enough for my team to be picked for Maharashtra to play in the National at Goa, my first cap for the state team in the National. Muscle trouble before the super league in 1973 forced me out. But in the camp to pick the state team I fought my way back and was in the team that reached the semi-finals of the Nationals at Ernakulam. I was in the camp at Patiala in April 1974 to pick the squad for the Asian Games. But I left

after about a month as my mother was ill at Mangalore. However, my hopes of an India cap revived this year when I was called to the camp at Patiala to pick the team for the Merdeka. But the selectors dropped me.

Free of injuries I have been having perhaps my best season. I am more confident in my approach to the games. But it was not always so. Certainly not when I came to Bombay from Mangalore as a 11-year-old because I was discouraged in my sporting interests. And it was active discouragement, that is my mother beat me up when I went back home after taking part in running. I did not play football till I came to Bombay and saw games at the Cooperage. As a matter of fact my mother still performs Novenas to persuade the Lord to dissuade me from sport, and she does not know of any of the injuries I have had.

During all kinds of jobs to eke out a living I landed at the Department of Atomic Energy thanks to a friend. There I answered a circular for players to report for the football team and was picked to be the goalkeeper because of my height and ball collection. We won the Third Division title in 1965 and was chosen the same year as goalkeeper of Maharashtra for the Junior National at Bangalore.

In 1967 I joined Mahindra and Mahindra. It is here that I learnt the finer points of goalkeeping. And I shall be ever grateful to Raghavan for the great pains he took to help me develop. Early he would spend at least an hour coaching me. His keenness to help me got him some bruckbats from a columnist who wrote that coach Raghavan had found a new use for reserve goalkeeper Saldanha, sending him out to pass on messages to his players! What Raghavan tried to do was to help me feel the atmosphere of senior football before I got a taste of it out in the middle.

I like to think that Raghavan got some satisfaction when I helped Mahindra finish a point above Mukund and escape relegation from the Harwood League in 1969. One of my best games in the second leg that year was against Matatal Group, who won the championship. We lost 0-1, but I had some consolation in saving a penalty each from Deryk D'Souza and Rajan. The next season I switched to Matatal. You know the rest.

Text: Sharp Shooter

Pic: Rio

RE TALLER

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(Ladies too!)**

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Surprise from Madhya Pradesh

MADHYA PRADESH caused a pleasant surprise when their doubles combination of Shikari and Prabhakar just about managed to get the better of Maharashtra's Nabar and Rawat 18 17 in the deciding set of the final match to earn them the men's title in the final of the West Zone Inter State Badminton Tournament at Margao recently. Faced by Maharashtra who had whipped MP effortlessly in the 1972 tournament held at the same venue were down by three matches to two.

If it can be said that MP owed their success in a large measure to their international star Partho Ganguly, it cannot be denied that his counterpart Asif Parpia, whom he downed in the first singles was largely responsible for Maharashtra's unexpected downfall. Parpia, who had flourished specially for the finals a few hours before the commencement of play was comfortably placed when he was leading 13 9 in the second set after having won the first set 15 11. But then he seemed to slip into complacency and paid dearly for it. Partho who was fighting gallantly all along touched his best form not only to win the second set 15 13 but also to win the match to give a head start to MP. He demolished Parpia in the final set to such an extent that he raced to a easy 15 4 win.

Maharashtra, however, retained poise through Partho Ganguly's handiwork. Partho gave a good account of himself with his



The Madhya Pradesh men's team. K. Prabhakar (left), Raman Gupta, S. P. Shrivastava (coach), Partho Ganguly (capt) and B. K. Shikari

delightful retrieving powers. They forged into the lead when their skipper Anil Pradhan beat Prabhakar in straight sets. But MP most deservedly won both the doubles matches to record a historic win over Maharashtra.

Pradhan was inadequately supported by Parpia, who looked highly dejected after his defeat at the hands of Ganguly, in the first doubles match which they lost to Ganguly and Gupta after taking the second set. Nothing could go right for Maharashtra with Parpia woefully out of touch.

The stage was thus set for the most tantalising and intriguing

battle in the final match which Shikari and Prabhakar won at the expense of Nabar and Rawat by the skin of their teeth, the final scores reading 15 13, 9 15 and 18 17 and making all the difference between victory and defeat.

Beyond a shadow of a doubt all members of the MP team pulled their weight in their success, but special credit must be given to their skipper Partho Ganguly who was easily the best player in the tournament.

Maharashtra, however, retained supreme in the women's junior girls and junior boys events whipping MP in all the finals. They did not drop a single set while retaining their titles in all these events. Sujata Jam and Sudha Bafna run out easy winners against Archana Yadu and S. Khosla in the women's finals. Manik Kelkar gave an impressive display in the junior girls events whereas N. Pawar shone for them in the junior boys events.

In the earlier rounds Maharashtra knocked Gujarat 5 0 in the men's section and 3 0 in the women's section while in the junior boys and girls events they trounced Goa without ceremony. MP did likewise to Goa in the men's and women's events. It goes without saying that hosts Goa cut a sorry figure in all the events. None joining the Goans looked capable of winning even a single set, not to speak of winning any match.



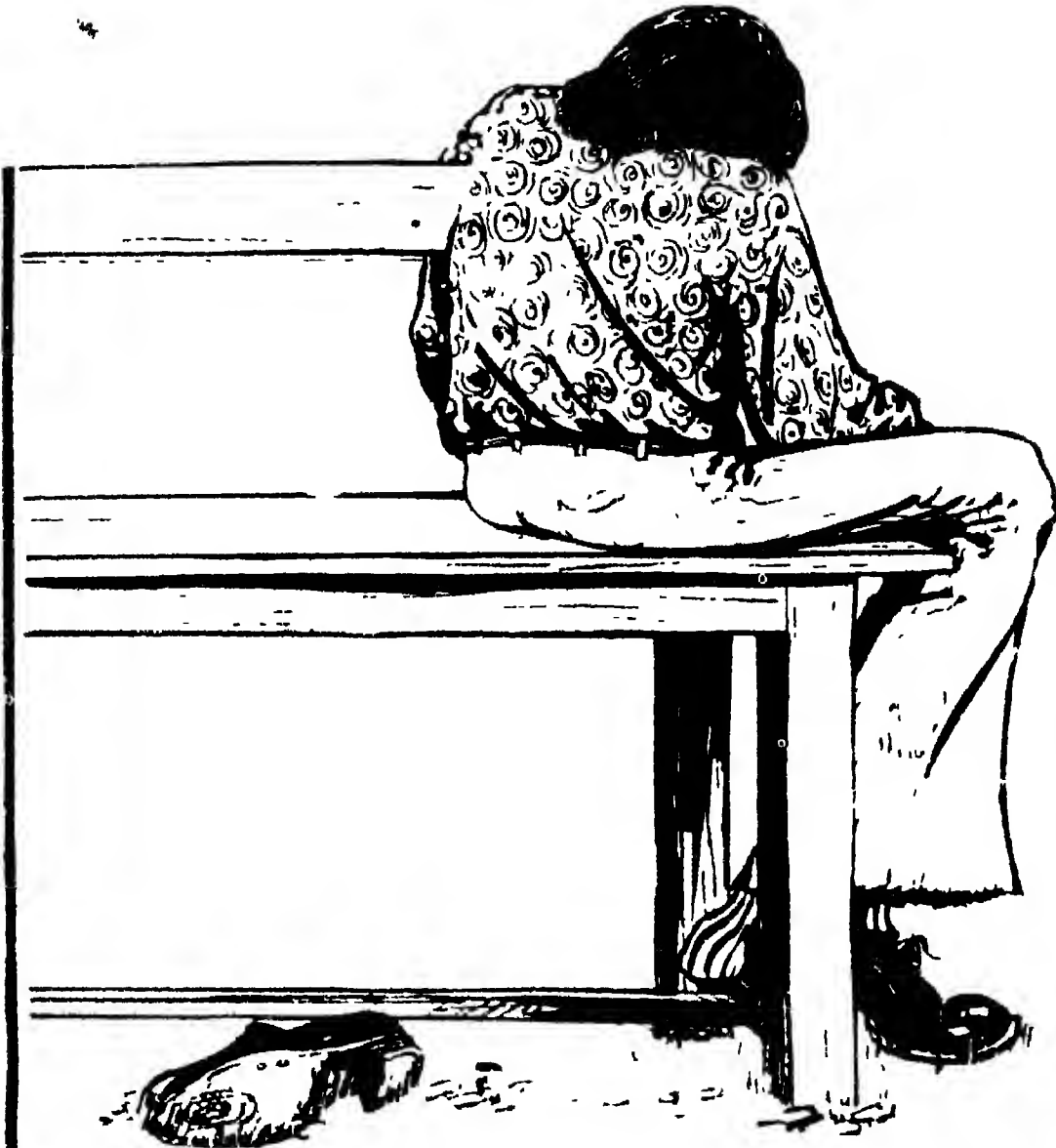
Sujata Jain (left) and Sudha Bafna steered Maharashtra to an easy win the women's section



-A. H. MOYI

drug kills

YOUR PERSONALITY,
YOUR PERFORMANCE
and **you**



KEEP AWAY FROM GANJA, CHARAS, OPIUM

davp 10/17/76



SIXTEEN YEAR OLD V Ravi Kumar scored two sensational victories in the recent Bhulwara Trophy Tournament at Madras, one against Aaron and another against Nasir Ali

Here is his game against Aaron which is remarkable for the way he secures positional advantage and utilises it by alternating play on both flanks

ENGLISH OPENING

White V Ravi Kumar

Black M Aaron

1 PQR3 (a) NKB3 2 NKB3, PKN3 3 PKN3, BN2 4 BN2, OO 5 OO, PQ3 6 PQ3, PK4 7 PB4, NR4 8 NB3, NQB3 9 RN1, PB4 10 BQ2, KR1? (b) 11 PON4, PQR3 12 PQR4, NK2 13 QB2, PB5 14 PN5, RPAP 15 RPAP, BB4? (c) 16 NKR4, RQN1 17 NAB, PKN 18 RB3, QK1 19 NQ5? (d) NKN 20 PKN, RB1 21 RN4, PXP 22 BPXP, NB3 (e) 23 RQB4, PK5 24 PXP, PXP 25 BAKP, QXP 26 RN1, Q3 27 BEB4 (i) PN4 28 RKR4, QN3ch 29 KR1, QKR1 30 BB3? (g) RK2

31 BQ4, QN2 32 PN4, R1K1 33 QB5 (h), RK4 34. BxR, RxB 35 QO3, QR2 36 KN2, KN1 37. QXP, QK6 38. RR3, RK2, 39 QO3, QN4 40 RN8ch, BB1 41. RKN3, RK4 42 RB8, QN2 43 QB2, NK1 44 PN5? (i) QO2 45 BN4, QN4 46 QO3, QN2 47 QKB3, BN2 48 BQ7, Black resigns

(a) Anderson's opening which has no special characteristics except that the move PQR3 may or may not be useful in the recognised forms of openings into which the game transposes later. Here it turns into a variation of English opening wherein PQR3 is unnecessary

(b) Black should immediately start a King side Pawn roller with 10 PB5 followed by PKR3, PKN4 etc

(c) Black parts with a Bishop probably with the idea of making use of the open KN-file for attack but it never materialises. The resulting doubled Pawns lack mobility

(d) Black has to exchange this Knight and incur the crippling disadvantage of a backward QBP

(e) White's threat of Queen side penetration is too imminent to permit Black to think in terms of King side attack. His main concern now is to get Pawn and maintain material balance

(f) This shifting of attack to the King side is much stronger than

winning a Pawn by RxBP

(g) Once again Ravi Kumar shows mature judgment in planning the attack rather than going in for the pedestrian 30 BxP, KN1 31 QN6, RK2. The Bishop manoeuvre is also designed to shut out the Black Queen

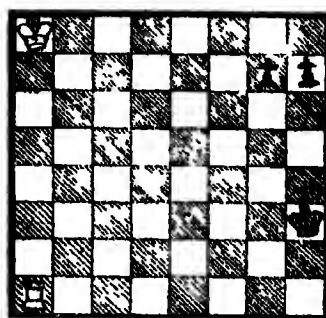
(h) Quicker would have been 33 QN6, RK4 34 PN5, RKNP 35. RXPch etc

Against the text move Black could have defended by 33 NN1 rather than giving up the exchange

(i) Making way for the Bishop if 44 PXP 45 BN4 and the threat 46 BK6ch is decisive

END GAME

By S V Simhadri



White Ka8 Ra1

Black Kh3, P's-g7, h7

White to play and win

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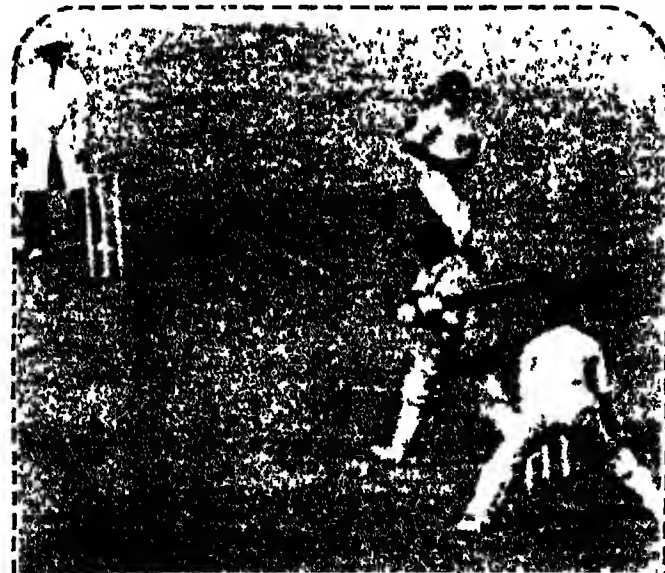
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The ball is missing in the photo alongside. Just mark a cross (X) where you think the ball is. Fill in the coupon and mail your entry to SPORTSWEK-SAHARA Spot-the-Ball Contest, Sportsweek, 156, D J Dadasaheb Road, Bombay 400 034

You may send as many entries as you like, but each must be accompanied by a coupon. Only one cross should be marked on the photo

CLOSING DATE: 26th Oct.

Results will be published in the issue of Sportsweek dated 7th Nov 1976

If more than one correct entry is received, the prizes will be shared by lot among the winners. The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence will be entertained

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IN the recent Bombay Contract Bridge Association Mixed Team of Four, there were some grand slam shooters on these cards.

AQ 1098

J2

AKQJ2

10

(N)

(S)

J2

AK3

1098

AK432

Despite the favourable spade finesse, none of the optimists were able to find the winning play for 7 NT—though one of them scored his contract on a misdefence. Try your hand, before reading further after the passive opening lead of D7.

The unavoidable spade finesse should be assumed correct and the play cater to a four-two spade division.

Declarer must plan the hand on a compound squeeze, resisting the temptation of tackling spades early. Five rounds of diamonds are played off, discarding two clubs from hand. West is reduced to four spades and four cards in hearts and clubs, coming down to a singleton in one of the suits, and retaining his guard in the other. Declarer now cashes AK of the suit unguarded by West, squeezing West in spades and the guarded suit. West must now unguard this suit as well in order to retain four spades. A spade is finessed and three spades cashed, squeezing East in hearts and clubs.

by

D
A
V
I
D
H
E
N
D
E
R
S
O
N



THE score mounted so fast and to such mammoth proportions that the overworked officials working the scoreboard ran out of figures!

It happened on May 15, 1948 when the Australian tourists played Essex at Southend. Spectators were to see one of the most sensational day's cricket ever played in England.

From the very first ball bowled it was obvious that the Australians were determined to score runs — and fast. It was a bats-



—by JIMMY MEHTA—

Is there any way to set the hand?

Yes, a club lead, followed by perfect defence. Providing West unguards hearts and retains clubs on the run of the diamonds, communication difficulties thwart declarer's plan.

This was the full hand

AQ 1098

J2

AKQJ2

10

K765

Q1098

65

865

43

7654

743

QJ97

J2

AK3

1098

AK432

Perhaps the hand should have been posed as a defensive problem for the defence though logical is more difficult than the play. Say the bidding marks declarer with AK in hearts and clubs, the compound squeeze is technically foreseeable.

After five diamonds and a club

are played this is the position which ensures defeat

AQ 1098

J2

nil

nil

K765

Q

nil

86

43

765

nil

QJ

J2

AK3

nil

K4

South is no better off if the club K is cashed, as it perhaps might be, before arriving at this stage.

South can now cash his hearts. Ace setting up the knave in dummy, but the hearts are blocked. If South cashes the second heart, East can guard both hearts and clubs.

If South cashes the club King after only one round of hearts and then tackles spades, East must unguard clubs, relying on West to guard this suit.

If West guards hearts instead of clubs, declarer enters his hand via the heart Ace and cashes his club King, squeezing West first in hearts and spades and then East in clubs and hearts.

Both defenders are required to unguard their honours and retain small cards. The defenders' honour cards in hearts and clubs are immaterial and declarer can always get home on any lead except a club, his communication being impaired.

Aussie run harvest

man's wicket and the green capped Aussies revelled in the opportunity to make the most of it.

The first wicket partnership between Sid Barnes and Bill Brown put on 145 runs in 96 minutes. It was savage, merciless — and the crowd loved it. This was exhilarating cricket. But there was more to come, much, much more.

When Sid Barnes was bowled, the illustrious Don Bradman came to the wicket. About two hours later he was back in the pavilion — having scored 187 runs!

Twenty came off his first over. He repeated the feat later in his amazing innings. It was slaughter of the Essex innocents.

So the day wore on and the Australians continued their non-stop run-getting. It was a spree beside the sea-side.

The score passed 500, 600, then

reached 700. It was here that the men working the scoreboard — it was one of the small boards on which the numbers have to be changed by hand — discovered that they had run out of "sevens".

But the Australians had not finished their massacre. Wickets had fallen with some regularity during that memorable day, but not until four of the Australians had achieved individual hundreds — Bill Brown (153), Don Bradman (187), Sam Loxton (120) and Ron Saggers (104 not out).

The last wicket fell just before the close of play with 721 runs on the board.

Don Bradman and his Australians had achieved a new record for most runs scored in a day's first-class cricket. They also became the first team to total more than 645 runs in one day and beat the previous record held by Surrey.

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SRC-104

Shanta steers South to victory

A CAPTAIN's innings played with supreme and ruthless efficiency by Shanta Rangaswamy gave South Zone the Rani Jhansi Trophy, symbol of supremacy in the All-India Women's Cricket Championship which concluded at Shimoga recently

South's victory came against champions West Zone who at one stage, after being put in to bat looked to be in a comfortable position after hitting up 168 for six in the allotted 60 overs

Faced with a tremendous task, South started shockingly losing their first wicket without a run on the board. But then wicketkeeper batsman Fowziah Khaleeli and the indisposed Sudha Shah laid the foundation for victory with a scintillating 60-run stand before Sudha retired, being unable to continue

On the scene came Shanta Rangaswamy, everything now resting upon her frail shoulders. She took charge straightaway making mincemeat of the West attack and in 99 minutes of sparkling action hit 89 not out, the highest score of the tournament in just 99 minutes to

steer South home. Fowziah made a gallant 45

Earlier, Test player Shoba Pandit (74) and Shubangi Kulkarni (45) were concerned in a fine 83 run partnership for West Zone

South had beaten North, East and Central Zone. They skittled

North for 23 with Shanta taking four for 11 and Susan Ittechery four for three.

West sent Central crashing for just 12 runs, the lowest score of the tournament with Diana Eduljee taking five wickets for no runs and her sister Behroze five for seven



Shanta Rangaswamy

captain's knock

Cricket's rebel speaks:

from p 10

guilty of ungentlemanly conduct by everybody who watched the replays on television. Certainly, I had been judged by those people watching it in the committee room at Lord's

As I walked into the dressing room, Alec Bedser was coming in

"Sorry about that Big Al" I remember saying. "It was a bit unfortunate, wasn't it?" "You'll apologise, won't you?" he said. "Sure," I replied. "Just let me get my shirt off and wipe away the sweat"

With that I sat down to put on another shirt when the door burst open and in stormed Billy Griffith, secretary of MCC

I don't think I've ever seen a man look so angry. He was literally white with rage as he shouted at me. "That's the most disgusting thing I've ever seen on the field"

I told him I'd already had a word with Alec Bedser, but Griffith kept on at me. An argument erupted until Ray Illingworth intervened and suggested to Griffith it would be better if he left. He did this, followed by Ray, who had a go at him for coming into the dressing room in the first place.

I was in no mood to apologise after that outburst. I needed that lunch break to calm down. If I had walked down the corridor filled with members to reach the Indian dressing room I don't think a gracious apology would have followed, particularly if on the way any other members had made a comment. I thought it better to wait

The whole of this incident was brought up again equally noisily before the match with the West Indies at The Oval in 1973

It was at the pre-Test dinner and all the selectors were there. It could well have affected my further selection, hardening one or two opinions that I was a thorn in the flesh. I was dropped after that game

My apology to Gavaskar came immediately after the interval when he was at the Nursery End and I walked past him to get to my fielding position

"Sorry about that," I said. "It was very unfortunate. Are you OK?" "Yes," he replied. "It was just one of those things"

Later that evening I had time to apologise more fully when we

had a drink or two together. There was no animosity, no ill feeling between us. He accepted the apology and repeated that it was just one of those things.

I could understand the authorities would want to take some action to protect the image of the game after the television exposure so I was quite prepared the following Saturday when I was summoned to speak to Alec Bedser on the telephone. The England side for the second Test at Old Trafford was being announced that morning

What I wasn't prepared for was the explanation of Alec Bedser. He told me that I was being left out. Then he added that this wasn't a decision of the selectors, but a direct order from above

That rankled with me. I told Alec. "If you are sending messages one way, you can send a message back. Tell them they can stuff themselves"

Wrong, of course. But I was in no mood for niceties. Throughout my playing career I've never really known where I stood or who was pulling the strings. I always felt there was somebody else in the background doing some manipulating and this confirmed my suspicion



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BUZZING AROUND

by BUSYBEE

IN order to boost the sale of television sets, one of the better known television manufacturing companies is coming out with a special cricket set. It will be in the market just before the first Test with New Zealand

The manufacturer was giving me details of the new set "You will feel as if you are actually sitting in the stadium and watching the game. There will actually be policemen placed in front of the camera to block your view," he said.

"That should make it very authentic," I said

"It will have several such real life features. For instance, Vijay Merchant will regularly come on the screen and request you to turn down the sound volume of your set as it would be disturbing the players," he said

"I see," I said

"And every time you applaud a

good stroke, the players will be able to hear it because of our special built-in two-way transmission service," he said.

"That is interesting," I said.

"You can do more than that," said the manufacturer "If your favourite player scores a century and you wish to run into the field and personally garland him, all you have to do is to step into the TV box and you are there."

"The marvels of modern science," I said. "First the moon and now this."

"Yes," said the manufacturer "The garlands will be supplied by our TV dealers, provided you inform us a day in advance"

I said "This set of yours, will it show the whole day's play or just parts of it"

"Not only the whole day's play, but when the players go in for lunch, the camera will follow them into the lunch room and the viewers will be able to see what the players are eating," he said

I asked "What about the off-season, when there is no cricket, will it show other programmes?"

"Not old Hindi films and 'Phool Khile' and all that," he said "You remember this is a special cricket set, so in the off-season it

will show various inquiries being conducted against players for discipline, etc. Also, there will be talks by former cricketers on need for fast bowlers.

I said: "If anybody has one of your sets, then everybody in the neighbourhood will come to his house to see the Test on it and the poor fellow will not have a moment's peace."

"We have taken that into account and made special arrangements," said the manufacturer "There will be a tiny device on every set which only the owner of the set will know about. When you press it, the set will go out of order and so all your neighbours and friends will go away"

"Any other special features?" I asked.

"Only that on this set India will never lose a Test," said the manufacturer "Every time India is in danger of losing, a special film, shot in advance, will be screened, showing India winning by a handsome margin"

"And how much will this set cost?" I asked.

He replied "We have not yet worked out the exact price, but I can tell you this, it will cost less than the price of a season ticket for the Test bought in the blackmarket."

QUESTION

IN
CHATTERBOX

Q WHAT is the reason for the failure of our hockey team at the Montreal Games?

—Nitin Shahade (Bombay)

A SINCE a few more committees have been appointed to investigate into the causes, you will have to wait for some more time for an answer

Q IN how many Tests did Greg Chappell play when MCC toured Australia in 1970-71?

—D T Rajendra (Hyderabad-4)

A GREG CHAPPELL played in five Tests. In eight innings, once not out, he scored 243 runs at an average of 34.71, with 108 on his debut in the second Test at Perth as his highest score

Q WHAT is the age of England pace bowler John Snow?

—M R V Rajan (Bangalore)

A THIRTY-FIVE. He was born on October 13, 1941

Q WHEN will the Indian cricket team be touring Australia and who is most likely to be the captain?

—Aftab and Ishwar Chopra (Delhi)

A INDIA will be touring Australia next season and their

is time yet to think of the skipper for the tour

Q IS it true that Gary Sobers once hit six sixes in an over in a match against Pakistan?

—P R V Prasad Rao (Vijayawada)

A NOT true. But he did achieve that feat in County cricket

ALL IN THE GAME!



"I'm afraid you can't interrupt the lads during rehearsals"

MISCELLANY

Calicut probe

THE Calicut Municipal Corporation has also taken up the big stick against the Santosh Trophy Committee, which has already being booked by the police for alleged misappropriation of lakhs of rupees. The Corporation has issued a notice to the organisers of the tournament, to submit audited accounts of the Nationals, held nine months ago, and honour the provision under which the entertainment tax exemption was given.

It has been found that tickets worth Rs 20.23 lakhs were sealed by the local body and that about Rs 10 lakhs was due to the Corporation. According to the provisions of exemption of entertainment tax, the committee had to submit the audited account, unsold tickets, and the utilisation certificate to the effect that the profits would be used for the promotion of football, and this should have been done within 15 days of the completion of the tournament. The Corporation has yet to receive a response though it had sent a reminder two months back.

The Corporation, though not very much active in dishing out facilities, has sent an ultimatum to the committee, in this regard. And time is running out.

The police are active, and an investigation is in full swing. They have completed the first round of collecting evidence from the five accused, and the convenors of the sub-committees. Action is also being taken to get back costly presents like radio sets given to some personalities, without the approval of the organising committee. Over 100 teak poles supplied by the government and taken delivery of only after the Nationals, were recovered from the premises of an office-bearer, one of the accused.

Meanwhile, an urgent general body meeting of the Kerala Football Association, met at Cochin, under the presidency of T. O. Abdulla and welcomed the investigations. The KFA, with a fresh voting council is to elect its new office bearers this month according to the AICS guidelines.

--SW Correspondent



Radia's Flotilla Club introduced roller-skating at its premises in Bombay and judging from the enthusiasm at their recent open competition it has caught on in a big way. Here's Rajan Vyas of Ahmedabad in action during the bridge jumping event -- leaping over S Nariman

End of the Games?

PROF ADOLF METZNER, a specialist in sports medicine, from the Federal Republic of Germany, feels that a somewhat paradoxical situation has arisen in the aftermath of the Montreal Games. He warns that the days of Olympic Games seem to be numbered and that Moscow might be the last.

Metzner in an article in "Die Zeit" refers to leading West German sports journalists and Willi Daume, who was the main organiser of the Munich Games, in support of his contention.

The use of hormones, drugs and various kinds of pep pills by athletes, according to Metzner, are some of the main reasons why he had to arrive at this sad conclusion.

The prospect of test-tube athletes being bred regardless of the health risks and doctors being required to produce record-breakers and Olympic champions rather than healthy individuals is indeed an alarming one, he writes. Organised sports has been aware of the risk for sometime and specialists have tried to stem the tide.

It began with 'pep' pills, especially amphetamines, and the medical profession succeeded in performing chromatography and other drug test techniques. A wide range of drugs were prohibited and dope tests successfully stamped out the practice, but a new generation of performance-boosting drugs and techniques are less easily identifiable.

Take for instance anabolic hormones. These are largely responsible for the he-men muscles of shot putters and discus throwers. The health risk of hormone treatment has at times been exaggerated but after effects in later life remain a distinct possibility. Where male athletes are concerned, there is little to choose between one country and another, but it is another matter when it comes to women.

It is not just the rippling muscle that disguise the female form but results in a throaty voice and underdeveloped breasts. If some female athletes take anabolic hormones and others do not, there is bound to be an enormous disparity in performance even if the he women lay off hormones for a couple of weeks before the performance.

The only way to prove the use of anabolic hormones at present is to conduct spot checks at regular intervals throughout the season, but this would be far too difficult a task. Another technique that has made headlines recently is known as blood doping. The idea is for the athlete to give a litre of blood that is stored away and fed back into him before a major event, to boost performance. Drug taking has to be stopped. But will it be done?

--NALANDA

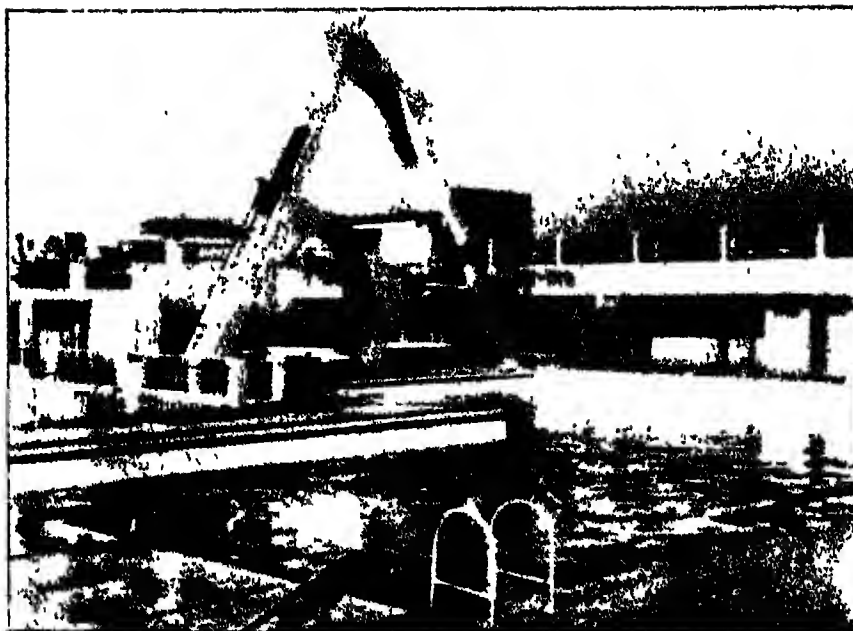
Nastase riddle

ILIE NASTASE found a loophole which enabled him to earn £20,000 from tennis while serving a 21-day suspension.

Nastase was fined £600 for his conduct in a victory over Hans-Juergen Pohmann during the United States Open last month. He was suspended because his fines for the year had exceeded £1750.

But he won £20,000 in a four-

Run—for
your life



The elevated L-shaped swimming pool of the Khar Gymkhana, Bombay, was inaugurated last week by Maharashtra's Sports Minister Sushil Kumar Shinde, adding another dimension to the club's other sporting facilities which include cricket, billiards, table tennis, tennis, badminton and carroms

player round robin at Caracas, Venezuela recently

According to the New York Times, the loophole that lets Nastase compete while he is suspended involves jurisdiction over Grand Prix sanctioned tournaments

He is not allowed to take part in these events, but no rules have been drawn up to cover unsanctioned promotions such as exhibitions or round robins

Nastase's lawyer, Fred Sherman described the situation as "ludicrous" He blamed it on a lack of consistent rules

Asif skipper

ASIF IQBAL, the Pakistan Test player, is the new captain of Kent following the resignation of Mike Denness

Denness was made skipper in 1972 and under his guidance Kent won six one-day trophies, including a double this summer of John Player League and Benson and Hedges Cup

Denness said "I don't care if I never pick up a cricket bat again—though I could change my mind in six months' time

Geoff Boycott has been re-appointed Yorkshire captain

Richards brilliant

VIVIAN RICHARDS smashed 104 off 120 balls for Queensland XI against Ian Chappell's Invitation XI in Queensland's centenary match.

Opening the innings, Richards

tipped 100 off 85 balls with 16 fours and two sixes, averaging four and half runs an over of the Invitations Eleven 283 off 40 overs

Fast bowler Jeff Thomson kept his promise made a few weeks ago and began with a high bouncer to Boycott But an inswinger of full length skittled Boycott (one) and Ian Chappell (22) Thomson had three for 31 off eight overs, despite Walters' 89 of 120 balls before he was run out last man, leaving Queensland winners by 67 runs

Offices squash

THE Mahindra Cup Inter-Offices Squash tournament for 1976 will be held concurrently with the Sah & Sangli individual events from November 4 to 13, at the Cricket Club of India and the Bombay Gymkhana courts Entries may be forwarded by October 15 to Ghulam Mohammed (Telephone 696421), Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd., Automotive Division, Akurli Road, Kandivli (East), Bombay-400 067

IT's HERE Sportsweek's WORLD OF CRICKET

(July-September 1976)

THE West Indies beat England comfortably in the five-Test series Alex Bannister describes it as "Arm chair ride to victory," while Tony Cozier explains how the West Indies rose from the ashes to triumph within six months Plus Test by Test account by Tony Cozier with score-cards, statistics and averages by B B Mama And eye catching action pics from Patrick Eagar, Sporting Pics and Central Photos

R T Brittenden and Tony Lewis discuss the prospects of the New Zealand and MCC tours of India Action pics of MCC players and portraits of the Kiwis you would like to possess

Ray Robinson features England's over reliance on veterans, John Woodcock writes about intimidation—a major problem which remains unsolved—and Michael Melford and Bishen Bedi survey the English county season

Profiles of Vivian Richards, Gordon Greenidge and Bob Woolmer Ranji Trophy, Duleep Trophy and other first class career averages of leading Indian players by Sudhir Vaidya

Fantastic colour spreads of Wayne Daniel, Vivian Richards, Gordon Greenidge and Clive Lloyd Beautiful, varnished art-paper cover featuring Michael Holding in four colours Offset printing, 98 pages Price Rs 6.

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MASTER PLAN FOR SPORT

Tap rural talent

YES Let us begin from the beginning as the proverbial saying goes It is better late than never.

One only hopes that the best Master Plan is fully implemented

Point-wise my Master Plan is like this

We should forget about winning just one gold medal that is in hoc key

We should have a full fledged Sports Ministry, which should be responsible for the working of all the sports organisations to avoid each other's legpulling

All those officials who have been sticking to their chairs like leeches should be removed as the first step. Instead we should have sincere men -- men of integrity to govern the destiny of our sports

Sports should be a compulsory subject in schools and colleges and there should be mass drills and parades

Every district should have good stadiums and cultural centres

Sports should be organised in the rural areas on full scale Here is the talent waiting to be tapped

For all this we will need coaches and men to man all these centres

For that I suggest that instead

of one NIS at Patiala, we must have atleast 50 sports schools all over the country Each school should have a strength of atleast 500 young boys and girls, these students should be imparted elementary education and more of sports

These schools will turn out sportsmen cum-coaches at a young age They should be assured of jobs as coaches in schools, colleges and as village sports organisers, they will in fact be the nucleus of our future sports organisations.

Parental involvement is also a must Children, right from their young age, should be encouraged to take active part in some sport or the other

Public appreciation and participation is also a must People at large should be educated to enjoy sports and make it a way of life

Lastly only dedicated men should be allowed to associate with our sports organisations, in fact, these men do the maximum damage and are the root cause of all our sports scandals and bungs.

Sports journalists should be made members of different sports organisations as these are the men, who can pin point the deficiency of our sports working system.

—Brij Bedi (Amritsar-1)

Timely

I WELCOME it as a very timely and imperative crusade. Sports should certainly be made an integral part of the national 10+2+3 system and I suggest that both the Union and State Governments should have a Sports Ministry in charge of a sportsman to look after this vital nation-building activity You should also persuade the Indian Youth Congress, which has taken an active interest in resurrecting sports, to participate in the campaign

—R K Karanjia,
Editor, Blitz, Bombay

Spirit

I AM touched by the spirit behind your appeal and thought I must try and do whatever I can to support your mission Sports-mindedness is essential not just to win prizes in games abroad It is necessary for everything one does You need a healthy body to do well whatever you do, mental or physical A nation of weaklings is not going to go far

—S Venkat Narayan,
Editor, Onlooker, Bombay

Maidans

SPORTSWEEK really deserves encomiums for the zeal with which it has espoused the cause of sports I am in perfect agreement with the views advanced by you in your editorial

The urban land ceiling act is already in operation Very soon the government will take over vast tracks of vacant lands declared surplus by various persons and institutions The Government can be prevailed upon to allot, from amongst this land, reasonable areas to be developed as maidans for sports

—Pradeep L Tanna, Sports Columnist, Janmabhumi, Bombay

NOT often does it fall to the lot of a magazine to find a course of action it has been advocating accepted as government policy SPORTSWEEK can take pride in the fact that the Government of India has decided to make sports compulsory in schools all over the country

—N. S. Ramaswami, Assistant Editor, Indian Express, Madras:

YOU have hit the nail hard on the heads of pessimists and detractors The excuses trotted out by them for our failures are in deed lame

—B M. Dani, Sports-in-charge, Bombay Samachar

Wanted: good administration

THE basic necessity is the formation of a separate Sports Ministry at the Centre as well as at State Governments, which should entirely be responsible for the promotion of sports in India Good administration will definitely bring our good results Politics, regionalism, rationalistic movements and favouritism should be kept out of sports

All State Governments should encourage all kinds of sports in their states, right from the taluka level Everyday, one hour compulsory physical education class should be introduced in all schools and colleges throughout the country Frequent competitions at various levels will be of utmost use Each state should pick up a batch of 20 to 30 young men and women and give them vigorous training so that about 600 to 700 sports men and women can be trained out of 600 million, simultaneously throughout the country in various sports, specially to compete in international sports

The players competitors should

be equipped with international standard sports equipments, if necessary by importing them from countries like GDR, Russia, USA, etc The sports grounds in some places should be changed to match with that of international standard The entire expenses should be met by the concerned State Governments with support from the Central Government If sufficient funds are not available, exhibition matches should be conducted between states some foreign countries, for which noble cause, I am sure, the Indian people will lend their valuable support Private bodies should also come forward and donate their mite to the welfare of sports in India

Frequent competitions between the states should take place Some foreign competitors should be invited to participate with our players Our competitors should be sent abroad to take part in various international competitions which will enable them to play/participate under different weather conditions

continued on p 37

Draft Sanjay

IS there any organisation in India, in any way similar to the National Playing Fields Association in the U.K.? Although I have had no personal experience, I believe that under the sponsorship of the Duke of Edinburgh this association has done a great deal to improve sporting facilities of all kinds in the UK. If it does not exist already, would it not be appropriate for SPORTSWEEK to suggest that the government should consider inaugurating such a scheme in India? Would it not be a suitable project for Sanjay Gandhi to become associated with?

—A C R Miller, president,
Bombay Gymkhana

Laudable

EVERYBODY will agree that the Government's move to make sports compulsory in schools is really a laudable one, but it seems impracticable atleast for the immediate future. I feel certain that most of the schools will be very happy to implement the sports programme, but the moment they go to the Government asking for funds for implementation, the answer would be negative. In any case let us hope for the best and if not now, atleast in not too distant future, compulsory sports will be a reality which will in turn give a boost to better results in competitive sports all over the world.

—Krishna Sanghi, Bombay

IT is very heartening that sports has drawn the attention at the parliamentary levels and committees have been appointed to investigate into all possible details to blossom the sport. I sincerely hope that the 'questionnaire' posed is duly answered by the sporting bodies, with useful ideas and dreams.

It is also true that our nation is certainly not devoid of intelligence but it only needs to be encouraged, developed and well-groomed. I would very much like to see that this encouragement is not going to benefit only the major sports but also other lesser-known sports and games.

—R K. Vissanji, Bombay

IT should be strongly recommended that each school should have on their rolls an allround sportsman who can give the children training from time to time according to their aptitude.

If and when you desire I am willing to write to the members of the Indian Merchants' Chamber to give encouragement to young sportsmen with a view to offering them employment in their companies.

—M. K. Sarghi, Bombay

MAIL BAG

I AM happy you have picked up the cause of hockey so passionately.

—Ayub Syed,
Editor, Current, Bombay

Congrats

CONGRATULATIONS and good wishes on the occasion of the 8th anniversary of SPORTSWEEK on 13th October 1976. Hope it will continue its progress. I wish SPORTSWEEK further success in future.

—A K Thampi (Lasker)

May you prosper

I'VE immense pleasure in wishing SPORTSWEEK many happy returns of the day on its ninth year of publication.

May this mag and its sister publications prosper under the able leadership and guidance of Khalid Ansari.

—Ravindra Bukkam (Goa)

SPORTSWEEK is full of cigarette advertisements. I request you not to publish this as it may affect our sportsmen's and sports lovers' health.

—Ramesh (New Delhi)

Surprising

IT is surprising to note that when the country is in search of fast bowlers, wickets, suited to our spinners, are going to be prepared for the coming series. How can one discover fast bowlers in the circumstances?

—Ravi Nagar (Calcutta)

MASTER PLAN

More foreign coaches should be invited to train our players.

We must forget that only hockey can win us medals at international sports. We must look out for sportsmen like Sriram Singh, Shrivath, etc., and train them properly so that they will win medals and laurels for the country.

A vigorous training for four years from now onwards will bring

Nothing wrong with soccer

AS a football lover I have been watching football matches for the last 30 years. I am sure our standard has not gone down. As a matter of fact, present day players are having better knowledge, skill and stamina. We need dynamic leadership to take us to the top.

We should organise an international tournament. If Afghanistan, South Korea, Malaysia can do it why not us? Most of our players can improve their standard by observing the tricks of the internationally-reputed players.

The AIFF should stop sending Indian teams to the countries who do not take part in our proposed tournaments. The AIFF can also initiate a tournament like "City Fairs Cup" conducted in Europe with home and away games.

—B Sambyal (Punjab)

AIR to note

MAY I request AIR not to appoint any expert commentators during the eight Tests against NZ and MCC. Some of these "experts" are asked to speak at the end of each over and they repeat what the commentators have already stated. It is but boring to hear these comments. If AIR insists on having expert commentators, let them speak after one session of play is over as it was done in the 1973 Test against England at Bombay. I hope AIR takes into consideration this request.

—Ravi Vinayak (Bombay 80)

Call Engineer

IF the Cricket Control Board does not invite Farokh Engineer to play for India against New Zealand and England, I think it will be difficult to win because Sayed Khamant did a bad job on the West Indies tour. He is also not an established batsman. But, on the other hand, Engineer was in superb form in the county championship season.

—Kanai Bhattacharjee
(Silchar)

from p 36

us good results at the time of the next Olympics at Moscow. Let us send a big contingent of 100 well-trained competitors, players with less number of officials and hope to win some laurels not only in hockey but also in other Olympic events such as athletics, football, basketball, etc.

—R. A. Surenthranath
(Bangalore 7)

Shinde beyond reach



YET another quadruple by Vasant Shinde has made assurance doubly sure. With only 13 races left to conclude the Pune Meeting he is beyond the reach of any of his rivals and this youngster, who has flashed across the Indian racing season with the luminosity of a comet, is certain of another riding championship. Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Geculdas and Mr. Muhajir D. Geculdas are so much ahead of the others in the race for the title of leading owners that they are reasonably sure of a triumph which will be their fourth in a row. Their colours have supplanted that of the Gwahors as the most popular in Western India.

Only the trainers' championship is in an interesting state. D. P. Pandole saddled two winners (Czardas and Monopoly) on Sunday and S. M. Shah had one (Amarantha). The position now is that Shah, who was the early favourite for the title, has a slender lead of only one winner and the final outcome is in the lap of the gods!

Terms races, especially distance ones, have become farcical. That the 2,400 metres Idar Gold Cup, a terms event for Indian horses four years old and over, would be a one-horse affair was evident as Ek Nazar, who was on 47 kilos, had a tremendous weight advantage over his only rival, Prime Time, who was on 57.5 kilos. As such, there was little interest in the race as the price quoted on Ek Nazar was absurdly cramped. However, when Ek Nazar entered the straight well clear of Prime Time and Shinde, who was astride, plied the whip and then settled down to ride him out with hands and heels showing him the stick all the way, the event took on a new aspect.

It was now abundantly clear that an attempt was being made on the course record of 2 minutes 35.35 seconds which Imperial Heritage had set when winning this race two years ago. As Ek Nazar moved with a smoothly flowing stride, as he widened the gap between himself and Prime Time and as the musical rhythm of his hoof beats on the verdant track reached a crescendo the tension mounted, the pulse beat quickened.

No longer was it of interest by how wide a margin he would win, no longer were intrepid punters concerned with their meagre winnings, all attention was focussed on his time as he swept past the post in majestic and solitary splendour. The announcement that he had won in 2 minutes, 34 seconds was received with tremendous enthusiasm.

M. S. D. P. C. Kapadia and R. R. Doshi's four-year-old son of Asopo Enam, who had been an expensive failure earlier in the season, had attained his objective, had found a place, however momentary, in the record books. Hats off to trainer Hiyat Mohd. A race which was only of academic interest had become a thriller, fully satisfying the senses.

Czardas, who like Ask Me had been withdrawn from the Idar Gold Cup to take on Class Two company in the 1,600 metres Chief of Kagal Gold Cup, were the most favoured of the five runners. It proved to be another one-horse affair, Czardas winning in pulling up for M. S. J. R. Nazim and A. M. Cooper. This was his second win in two starts in Pune and his fourth straight cup success as he had won from his last two starts in Bombay. It is more than likely that the Horatius Miss Rebecca colt will compete in the 1,200 metres Chief Minister's Gold Cup on the last day but the distance will be sharp for him.

Amarantha staked a claim for consideration as a strong contender for the fillic Classics when she easily won the 1,600 metres Sanjiv Nessim Plate from Class Four opposition when carrying top weight. The Paddykin Hind Pyari filly, who had an earlier success over the same distance and in the

same class, will now go to Class Three and her future will be followed with consuming interest.

In Mysore, Red Satin (Satinello Alkapuri) came up trumps in the 2,000 metres Mysore Derby and further enhanced his stock. He won the Colts Trial in Bangalore but failed in the Derby there. In Hyderabad he claimed the Colts Trial but was beaten by Kitty Bank in the Deccan Derby. He won the Mysore Derby by three lengths from Young Lion in 2 minutes 11.35 seconds. Serengeti was third, a short head behind the runner-up and a head in front of The Double Eagle. Red Satin is trained by A. B. David and all the other three in the frame were saddled by Bangalore Summer champion Zaheer Darashah.

There has been a major shake-up in the control of the Bangalore Jurt Club and there is reason to believe that this will have a far-reaching effect on the fortunes of a centre which has risen from nothing to become the busiest, if not the most important, in the country. M. S. V. I. Vellu (Chairman) and N. K. Guruswamy are out and B. Ramakrishna Rao is the new Chairman.

The BTC had, unquestionably, risen to its present eminence because of the efforts of its dedicated and indefatigable Secretary, M. Arshad Ali Khan. In fact, if it is not exactly a one-man show it is certainly a one-family concern as the key positions are held by members of his family. In an informal talk with newsmen at the Kunigal Stud last year, Arshad Ali had made it clear that if Vellu ceased to be Chairman he would resign. If he thinks the same today the BTC will be the poorer for his going.



Ram Prakash Mehra, president, Board of Control for Cricket in India, released three books on cricket — Cricket Delightful by Mushtaq Ali, Cricket Replayed by Vijay Hazare and How to Play Cricket by Vinoo Mankad in Delhi last week. The three paperbacks are published by Rupa and Co., whose Managing Director is Rajan Mehra (left). Also present was Mushtaq Ali (right).

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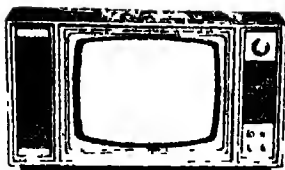
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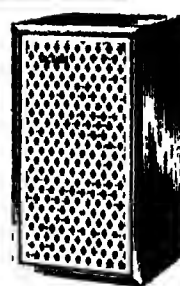
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Sportsweek

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October 24, 1976

HITTING OUT... KHALID ANSARI

This selection defies all logic

ASK the honourable gentlemen of the National selection committee of the Board of Control for Cricket in India whether or not there should be — in its composition — continuity, faith, trust and that it should be given a fair chance to prove its worth

If the answer is not an unanimous, resounding "but, of course," Diwali is not the festival of lights

But, put the same question to these same gentlemen in the context of a captain or the players, chances are — a rupee to a chapatti — the answer will be prevaricating, vacillating, equivocal, hypocritical, consisting of "ifs" and "buts"

The appointment of Bishen Singh Bedi as captain of the Indian cricket team for just two of the three Tests for the forthcoming series against New Zealand, if not all eight Tests for the twin series against the Kiwis and England, is so absurd that it defies all logic

From all reports, including those of his detractors who were on the spot in New Zealand and the Caribbean, 'Bish' did all that was expected of him — and more — on and off the field is player leader of men, tactician and ambassador

Various considered 'hot headed,' 'eccentric,' 'naive,' 'immature,' 'abrasive,' 'obdurate' by his denigrators following his appointment as skipper for the twin series, Bedi has made his detractors eat crow — baring that unfortunate display of 'tantrums,' 'temper,' 'cussedness,' 'just plain bad manners' (pick your version) or 'an anxiety not to expose his tailenders to further injury' (as he himself would have us believe), in the eventful Kingston Test which was characterised by the fusillades of Messrs Holding, Holder and Daniel

Bedi's ability to rally and inspire his team mates on these tours is said to have been unparalleled in recent times — which is not saying very much when one considers the 'politics' which have afflicted many of our 'National' teams. Be that as it may, for once on the twin-tour under discussion, there were no rifts and factions for which credit must redound to the captain, manager Umrigar and, of course, the players themselves

But the 'stormy petrel,' 'bete noire' image of Bedi following his purported off-the-cuff

remarks in the course of a BBC television interview (for which he was disciplined), the unpleasant Nagpur incident (during the series against Sri Lanka last year) and his uncalled-for 'statements of fact' in New Zealand (how-evermuch they may have been based on truth) have not done the India captain's image much good.

While it is no doubt true that the Delhi, North Zone and Northants stalwart, indisputably the best spinner of his kind in the world today, if not of India of all time, has not quite been the paragon of diplomacy and discretion (transparently basic and sincere, he has been prone to speak his mind and to hell with the consequences) the Bedi of today is a much changed, mature individual

The National selectors did a grievous injustice to him by not including him in their deliberations when selecting the 'experimental' Rest of India side for the Irani Cup match. And they have rubbed salt into the wound by nominating him captain for just two (jezebel!) of the three Tests against New Zealand. Can this possibly be conducive to morale and team-spirit? Tell us another!

Had the case against Bedi been so strong, it may have been better, in the ultimate analysis, NOT to appoint him captain at all rather than run the risk of possible bad morale and sub-standard performances from a captain on trial and his equally unsure teammates.

There is a school of thought which maintains, with due respect for the claims to captaincy of other candidates, that there exists within the selection committee a certain lobby which is possibly 'gunning' for Bedi

SPORTSWEEK, as a matter of principle, discounts all such rumours. But all of this leaves a bad taste and makes one wonder if there is not, after all, somewhere in the corridors of the august assembly a rat that is now beginning to stink

How one wishes to dear God that the selection committee which, as in the case of the Board president, secretary and assistant secretary has been sensibly retained (to what extent the Parliamentary Committee's questionnaire is responsible for this is not yet clear) and which did a fairly creditable job of selection for the tours of New Zealand and the West Indies will not continue the despicable chop-and-change, 'you scratch my back I scratch yours' policy of some of its predecessors

Is it too much to hope that the selectors will discharge their onerous responsibilities with integrity and that personal, communal, parochial, regional and non-cricketing factors will be as far away from their deliberations as our performers were from a gold medal in the Montreal Olympics?

Is it, really?

**SPORTSWEEK wishes its readers
a happy Diwali and a prosperous
New Year**

COVER: Nirupama Mankad, former Asian tennis champion, performs the Diwali puja. Transparency Gopal Bhat

THE LAHORE TEST

PAK ONE-UP

PAKISTAN coasted home to a comfortable six wicket win over New Zealand in the first Test at Lahore, but not before the Kiwis retrieved to some extent their tarnished reputation with a brave show in the second knock.

The first hour of play definitely belonged to New Zealand. Richard Hadlee, bowling with a high arm action and getting disconcerting bounce from the sun-baked Gaddafi Stadium wicket, stunned the home crowd with blow after blow, removing the cream of the batting with superbly controlled deliveries, getting just enough movement to find the edge or beat the bat.

The first three wickets of Majid, Sadiq and Mushtaq fell to him, at which stage he had taken three wickets for 27 runs in five eight ball overs. With the scoreboard reading an incredible 44 for 3, he walked the 18 year old Javed Miandad to play in the first Test of his career.

Can there be a sterner test of character and temperament than this grim situation for a young lad making his Test debut? Very soon, it was to be wise still, as Mark Burgess surprisingly bowled the prolific Zaheer Abbas cheaply and Pakistan were reduced to a sorry 55 for 4.

But Miandad remained undismayed. Playing with calm assurance and arisngani skill he executed some delightful drives in front of the wicket, picking the gaps with unerring precision, and

sending the hitherto shocked crowd of 22,000 into raptures. A perfect foil to his ebullient batting display was the newly-appointed captain of Kent, Asif Iqbal, who matched Miandad stroke for stroke with authority and elegance.

The session between lunch and tea was a veritable run-orgy. The lunch score of 68 for 4 was transformed into a tea time 229 for 4. Miandad 111 and Asif 65. They had added 161 in two hours of dazzling artistry and power-play. Miandad reached his 100 with three successive fours off the luckless Collinge in a total time of 150 minutes with 11 fours, whilst Asif brought up

by A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

his 100 in the post tea period in the comparatively slower time of 228 minutes with 10 fours.

Half an hour before the close, the game took a bizarre turn. The bulky Peter Petherick, a 34 year-old motor mechanic, bowling his 16th over of cleverly modulated off spinners, suddenly had Miandad caught for 163. Hardly had the thunderous standing ovation for Test cricket's newest batting hero died down, and the statistical titbit of the record 281 run fifth-wicket stand for Pakistan digested, than Petherick had the next two batsmen Wasim Raja and Intikhab Alam (both, ironically enough, last-minute substitutes for the chosen team) back in the pavilion with two successive deliveries.

The first hat-trick seen in a Test during the last 16 years had been accomplished. The last bowler to do it had been Lance Gibbs at Adelaide way back in 1960/61. Pakistan finished an action-packed day 349 for 7. Asif Iqbal 128 not out, completing in the process 2000 runs in Test cricket.

The second day saw 14 wickets tumble for a total of 226 runs, 11 of those wickets New Zealand's. The Kiwi batting was inept and disappointing, showing woeful signs of lack of match-practice, as they crashed for 157, and in the follow-on lost another wicket in five deliveries.

The match threatened to end by lunchtime on the third day, as both Glenn Turner and Geoff Howarth fell the next morning in the first couple of overs. With the top three Kiwi batsmen gone and only one



Javed Miandad fighting century on debut

run on the scoreboard, visions arose of yet another all-time low by New Zealand, beating their 26 at Auckland 20 years ago. But, happily for them, most of the later batsmen played with grit and purpose, determined to salvage some self-respect even from a hopelessly lost Test.

The 27-year-old right-hand batsman, Robert Anderson, from Otago—the same province for which Glenn Turner and Peter Petherick also play—came within eight runs of a Test debut century, and in partnership with the ever-reliable Mark Burgess, he added a record 183 for the fifth wicket.

The fine flurry of defiance was carried on after their departure by Richard Hadlee who added 61 for the seventh wicket with the new-keeper Warren Lees, and 45 in last wicket stand with David O'Sullivan.

Set to get 101 to win with time to spare, Pakistan played just a shade too cavalierly to lose four wickets on the way to a well-earned win, with Javed Miandad in the fitness of things ending the match in the grand tradition of a coin-mandling straight-field six.



Peter Petherick Test hat-trick

Captains on the mat

ENGLAND fast bowler John Snow sees himself as a Cricket Rebel and that is the title of his autobiography, being serialised in the Evening Standard

In this extract he makes some revealing comments about England captains under whom he has played, notably Tony Greig and Ray Illingworth. And although he is quick to praise, he can also be scathing in his criticism

IHAD no doubts that Tony Greig would be captain one day, but I thought that day was probably another two years off from the day he took over the Sussex captaincy from Mike Griffith in 1973

My doubts about Greig concerned his age, for he was then 25, his lack of tactical experience, and the fact that he was only just settling into the England side. I thought it was asking too much of him to try to revitalise an ailing side and at the same time to concentrate on securing a regular place at Test level

As it has turned out, Greig has proved a winner. He has been able to combine the two roles, although it has put a tremendous weight on his shoulders. A weight increased when he was appointed England captain in 1975 to succeed Mike Denness. I hope all the responsibility doesn't take its toll too early

His keenness, enthusiasm and will to win stirred up the whole team and have continued to do so even if the final placings in the Championship have not been all that impressive under his reign so far

The same thing happened with England. At both county and country level, Tony has led from the front, and the "troops" have not been slow to follow

I believe his two or three seasons under Ray Illingworth in the England side were very important for he came into the England dressing room when the senior players were of a reforming nature

He is strong enough to say what he thinks, and his appointment as England captain has also strengthened his arm when it comes to making demands of the Sussex committee

There are still occasions, however, when I question his tactical direction, for I often feel his ideas are rather too ambitious, particularly in the field

He tends to be a very excitable captain, and in his determination to prove who is the master shows the impetuous streak he often displays in his batting. At times, this

impetuous streak has proved costly in giving away runs, yet it has also brought results when least expected

Perhaps the most important factor in his captaincy with Sussex is his willingness to listen to others and act on their suggestions. The result has been that the players all feel part of a team and know exactly what is expected of them and what they are trying to do

Ray Illingworth's leadership had my full support during the stormy 1970-71 tour of Australia. England won the series 2-0 to become the first side to reclaim the Ashes in Australia since that controversial "bodyline" explosion under Douglas Jardine's captaincy almost 40 years earlier

I supported Ray when he defended me in the face of some peculiar judgments from Australian umpires. I supported him in that incident-packed final Test in Sydney, when he led us off the field after I had been attacked by a spectator and the playing area at one end of the ground became littered with beer cans and bottles

Despite all that had been written, Ray was perfectly calm and in control of himself at that moment. Not until he reached the dressing room did his anger boil over, and only then when manager David Clark literally tried to push us back out on to the field

At that, Ray went white with



John Snow and Tony Greig watch as Alan Knott floors a chance

rage and suggested it was about time the manager looked after our interests and the safety of the players instead of siding with the Australians

My suspicions about Ray's sack in 1973 were aroused when I heard later from a source which should know, that even one of the England selectors did not know that Ray had been replaced by Mike Denness

From what I read and heard, one of the biggest complaints about the leadership of Mike Denness in the West Indies in 1973-74 concerned the handling of his bowlers, the fast bowlers in particular

Whatever the rights and wrongs of the situation in the West Indies, I had no complaints about Mike's captaincy in his handling of me in the one Test I played under his leadership against the Australians at Edgbaston in 1975

Ted Dexter and Brian Close are two captains I have served under who have been classified as all-rounders, although I would categorise them as batsmen who could bowl a bit

I found them both inclined to be a little dictatorial, introducing too much theory into their leadership. I was never sure with either of them when I would be asked to bowl or when I would be taken off

Sometimes they would bring on a bowler for all the wrong reasons — possibly because they were just plain bored with what was going on. Each must have puzzled keen students of the game at times, but if a change resulted in a wicket it was always hailed as a master stroke. I played a brilliant inspired leadership

The first two Test matches in 1966 against the West Indies started without me, the selectors ticking to the bowlers who had drawn the series in Australia 1-1 although the captain changed between the two games

Colin Cowdrey took over again after Mike Smith's side had lost the opening Test at Old Trafford on a wicket that made winning the toss vitally important. Unfortunately, Mike lost it

Mike Smith seemed to be riding the side with a loose rein, believing it knew where it was going and needed only an occasional tug to keep it on course. I think most players appreciated this and his openness as a person brought a better response on the field

I thought he was astute in his handling of players, and would have liked to have played under him more

The big question mark

THE very ease of Bombay's 10 wicket triumph over the Rest of India in the Irani Cup match here last week — the Ranji Trophy champions won with slightly over a day to spare — raised many disturbing thoughts about the state of cricket below Test level in the country. While Bombay deserve all praise for the highly disciplined and determined manner in which they went about their task, there is a big question mark over the so-called talented youngsters supposedly waiting impatiently in the wings to step into the Test team.

The team which Bishen Singh Bedi was asked to lead was widely criticised as being too weak to pose much of a challenge to Bombay, or to draw the crowds. That was true enough, and without any big names the rag-tag bunch assembled from widely scattered areas could hardly be expected to function as smoothly as the well-knit Bombay team.

But that argument was valid only up to a point. For, every player chosen for the Rest had a vital stake in the match. Over the years, the Irani Cup match has been used by the national selec-

tors to have a look at promising second string players. This year they took the process to its logical conclusion, and Bedi was given only two other Test players, Madan Lal and Anshuman Gaekwad, in his team. However, none of them was a novice either. Almost all of them had a wealth of Ranji and Duleep Trophy experience, and most of them had been talked about at one time or another as likely India prospects. Thus, players like Michael Dalvi, Hari Gidwani, Ramnath Parkar, Barun Burman etc. had every incentive to give a good account of themselves.

But how cruelly these hopes were belied. The defeat itself was disgraceful, for Bombay were undoubtedly the superior side. But with the exception of Maharashtra's Yajuvendra Singh the Rest's players showed neither application nor class. The pattern of the match was established on the opening day itself when the Rest were shot out for 173. Though Barun Burman caused a mighty flutter in the closing stages of the day by dismissing Gavaskar cheaply and Bombay were 28 for three at the close, there was no stopping the Bombay



Madan Lal forces a ball to leg during his fighting knock in the second innings

tuggernaut during the next two days.

Even that modest score looked beyond the Rest's capabilities at one stage in the morning, when they were a beggarly 39 for four. Anshuman Gaekwad looked as if he had still not recovered from the battering he received at Michael Holding's hands as he pottered about painfully against Ghavri and Ismail. He made 20 in almost two hours before being fourth out. The ones to go before that fared even more poorly. Palas Nandy did not have a clue to the bowling, Hari Gidwani seemed to be terrified at the prospect of revealing his strokes, and Michael Dalvi seemed to lose interest after a couple of spanking cover-drives. All this may sound carping, but one expected better from players with such high ambitions.

However, there was a silver lining in the cloud in the shape of Yajuvendra Singh. He was one of the few batsmen not to show any signs of nerves as he proceeded to scatter the close-in cordon with some deliberate lofted shots. Once the field had fallen back, Yajuvendra settled down to play some fluent driving on both sides of the wicket. He made 61 with eight boundaries, and put on 66 for the fifth wicket with Madan Lal, who made 25 hard-hitting runs. The innings



Dilip Vengsarkar cuts during his innings of 90 in Bombay's first innings

fell to pieces after they were separated, Shivalkar and Baindoor sharing the spoils.

Barun Burman made a dramatic and devastating impression late that evening when he opened the Rest's bowling with Madan Lal. Burman has an easy smooth style and can move the ball effectively in both directions. And he seemed to walk a couple of inches taller as he forced Gavaskar to flick an inswinger off his toes for Gidwani to hold the catch at short-leg. At the other end Madan disposed of Rahul Mankad, and then Burman rubbed salt in Bombay's wounds by claiming night watchman Baindoor.

But those wounds healed all too soon, as the Rest's fielders and bowlers learnt to then dismay the next day. Ashok Mankad and Dilip Vengsarkar batted in the best Bombay tradition — without fuss or flourish, grafting runs slowly but decisively. They put on 162 for the fourth wicket, taking the score from the overnight 28 to 184 before Mankad was taken in the deep while hurrying to a well-deserved century. His 94 in 175 minutes contained 13 fours. It was not blemishless — the Rest must have rued the chance which wicketkeeper Banerjee let off when Mankad was 43 — but was solidly competent. If that old catch phrase about middle-order stability still holds good, Ashok Mankad is surely still available.

And so is, one imagines, Dilip Vengsarkar. In fact, the Delhi crowd must have wondered if this was the same Vengsarkar they had read or heard about so much. There was not a hint of the big hitting which had marked his appearance on the big cricket scene. He was even more slow and cautious than Mankad and his 90 took him 233 minutes. There were 11 fours, and one reminder of his past pyrotechnics was when he crashed Bedi over the straight field for a beautiful six. On the whole, though Vengsarkar did not really impress with his stroke-play, he got the runs, and that was what mattered most.

The Rest's troubles were not over even after these two had been disposed of. Wicketkeeper Banerji — who is no stranger to Delhi, having played for the Railways some seasons back — took over in the same dogged style, and remained unbeaten with 57 when the innings finished at 327 on the third morning.

One had hoped that the Rest batsmen would have learnt some lessons from their Bombay counterparts. But that hope too was belied as they caved in for 183 the second time around. Madan



The Bombay team takes the field led by Sumit Gavaskar (left)

Lal was the sheet anchor of the innings with an unbeaten 61 with a six, off Baindoor, and eight fours. This time there was no Yajuvendra Singh to help out, for the latter made only seven. But Madan found an unlikely partner in last man Ashwini Minna, who made 23 uninhibited runs which not only enabled Madan Lal to get his half-century but also ensured that Bombay would have to bat again. They hit off the 30 runs needed in quick time.

On the whole, this was a wasted

match, especially in the matter of finding replacements for best stars. The only possible exception is Burman, who could be groomed into a good new ball bowler.

In fact, the more one looks back on this match the more one thinks of the two old faithfuls in the Bombay, one of whom has been discarded and the other not given a chance at all — Ashok Mankad and Padmakar Shivalkar. But how the selectors view it is a different matter altogether.

—SW Correspondent



Yajuvendra Singh survives an appeal for lbw by Abdul Ismail. He scored a brilliant 61 in Rest's first innings. Pics: Kamal Julka

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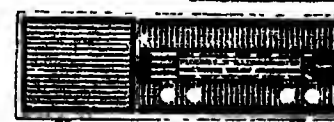
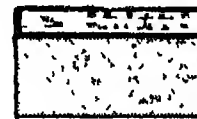
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THE ART OF CRICKET.

Taking guard

EVERY batsman, upon arriving at the crease, must take block

There are three common positions; middle stump, leg stump, and two legs (meaning half way between the middle stump and the leg stump).

I did once hear a batsman ask for middle and leg inclined to leg, but I thought he was stretching things a bit too far

The sole purpose of taking guard is to enable the batsman to judge the direction of the ball relative to his wicket

The striker will, upon getting the required position, mark it on the ground back from the popping crease

Spectators sometimes wonder why batsmen may ask for guard several times during an innings. The answer is that a mark on the ground may become obliterated or damaged

Occasionally the two batsmen at the wickets take a different block or one may be a left hander. Obviously the one is inclined to make rather a mess of the other fellow's mark especially if he is the nervous type who is constantly patting the ground whilst awaiting delivery of the ball. The spikes can also tear across one's mark when making certain foot movements

I do not think it is normally of great importance which guard is taken, though from my own experience I found middle and leg to be the most serviceable

It means your legs are stationed originally some two inches more towards the leg side than they would be if you took middle stump

In this way it is easier to be sure that a ball travelling towards your pads is outside the leg stump, and precise judgment of the direction of a ball is a "must" in developing the batting art

When an off-break bowler is operating to a strong leg field, many batsmen take guard on the leg stump or even, in extreme cases, just outside. By so doing they endeavour to counter his wiles. They feel it gives them greater freedom to hit at any ball directed at their pads, and a better chance of steering away from the clutching hands of leg slips any ball directed at the stumps. There is much to be said for the theory

On the other hand a batsman whose great weakness is that he fails to cover the ball outside the off stump, especially against a fast or medium pace attack, would be

wise to consider taking middle stump for his guard. It would take him those extra couple of inches towards the line of flight before the ball is delivered.

So take your choice. You will have to stand or fall by your judgment

The back lift

Reams of matter have been written about the necessity of taking one's bat back perfectly straight. Some coaching books even advocate taking the bat back over the stumps

Well, now, this is the sort of illustration which proves the need for intelligent coaching as distinct from strict rule of thumb

Don't let me be misunderstood. I am all in favour of a straight bat at the right time and place, but technique must be the servant not the master

Too many players fail because their thoughts are concentrated on where their left elbow is or where something else is, instead of hitting the ball

I was never conscious of my back lift and I did not take any particular notice where the bat

particularly when they were not conscious that a camera was focused on them, I think we would find the majority of them take the blade back rather more towards first or second slip. That initial movement probably allows a flexibility which the strictly orthodox does not

Even that arch disciple of a straight bat, Trevor Bailey, offends the text book as much as I do in making some strokes. The strip photographs in his book illustrating various shots clearly show the back lift is not always straight. His bat, like mine, is sometimes taken back towards the slip fields men, but of course it comes down straight. And even W G Grace, with his famous "left wrist in front of the handle" grip, lifted his bat up towards slips

Again I emphasise that one must not be a slave to technique and one should not have to be conscious of such movements. They should be natural and involuntary

Whether the bat is taken back straight towards the stumps or towards first slip, be careful it is not too high. Remember that the higher the back lift the longer it will take to bring the bat down. There is always a happy medium

by SIR DONALD BRADMAN

went until I saw movie shots of me in action. Then it was clear my initial bat movement almost invariably was towards the slips

This was accentuated by my grip and stance and perhaps it should have been straighter, but to me, anyway, the important thing was where the bat went on the down swing

For defensive shots the bat should naturally be as straight as possible, but for a pull shot, for instance, a perfectly straight back lift would make it far harder to execute the stroke

I believe in a sensible back lift and agree that it should not be that of the muscular man who strikes the gong in the J Arthur Rank films, but there must be some degree of latitude and it must not become an obsession clogging up stroke production

By going to extremes the player who uses the crease area and takes the bat back absolutely straight would find himself out hit wicket

So long as the batsman is in the correct position at the top of the back lift, I don't think he can go far wrong

If we could take moving pictures of all leading batsmen in action

but the back lift should be no higher than is necessary for a proper balance between control in defence and power in attack

Some coaches teach players to take the bat back with the left hand. Again I fear the mental result. A defensive complex starts to build up

I was never conscious that either hand was playing any special part in the initial movement. It was just a natural process

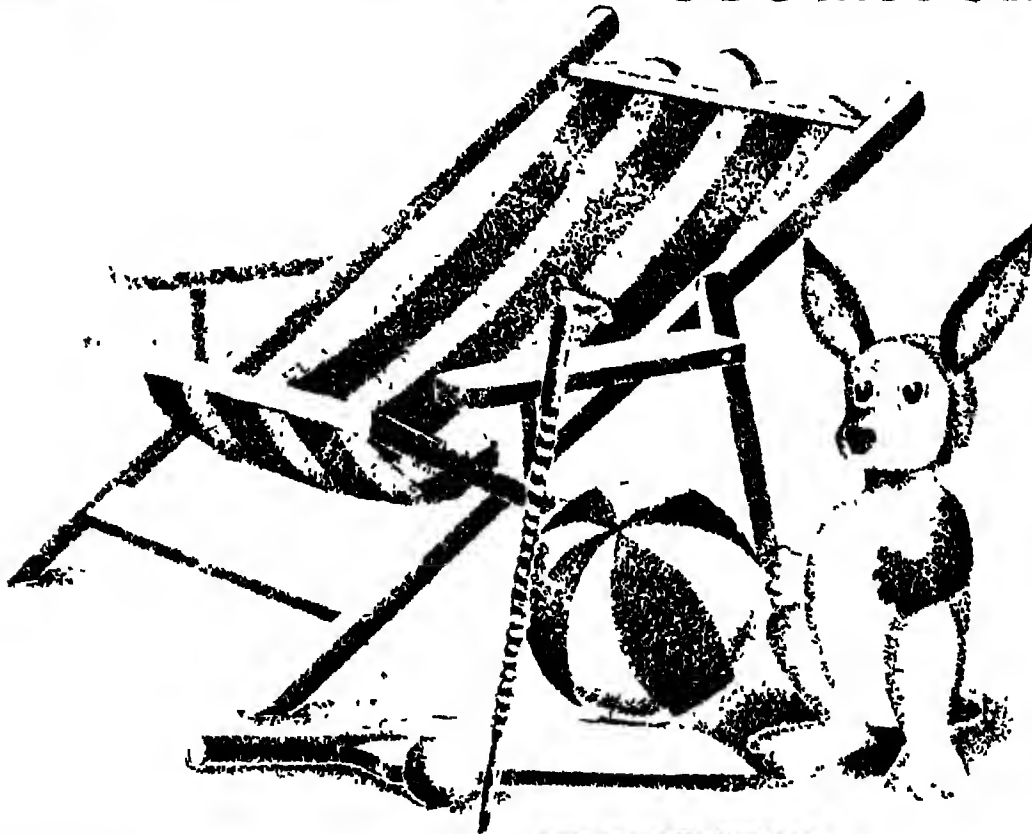
When I stop to analyse it I'm inclined to think my right hand predominated sometimes -- in the pull shot for instance -- and the left hand sometimes -- especially in defence. But the whole purpose of the movement is to enable one to hit the ball as accurately as possible and I am more inclined to teach boys what to do than how to do it -- so long as there is no fundamental or glaring error

Better to hit the ball with an apparently unorthodox style than to miss it with a correct one

I have spent some time dealing with these "preliminaries" but things must be kept in the right perspective

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THE BERRY SARBADHIKARY COLUMN

Pitches for home bowlers

WHEN in the mid-50's, then Pakistan captain, Abdul Ha-feeze Kardar, openly declared that in Pakistan wickets would be prepared which would favour his bowlers—matting wickets not excepted—there was a hue and cry from Lord's to the Melbourne Cricket ground that that was not cricket.

I could not but suppress an "inward" smile. For, former England captain, Douglas Jardine, had told me in all sincerity that "Down Under" during the MCC's controversial 1932-33 tour, in view of England's fast battery, comprising Larwood, Voce, Bowes and Allen, the Australian Board had definitely produced three "slow" Test wickets!

Matting wickets for Tests have rightly gone overboard. But at least in the last decade and a half wickets have been prepared taking into account the home bowlers' strong points and the visitors' weak. Thus with their Lillie and Thomson & Co. quick wickets appeared in Australia against the MCC and the West Indies, despite the latter having Andy Roberts, and an "unknown" in Michael Holding. And the Aussies won 51

And during India's latest tour of the Caribbean, in our abject lack of genuine fast bowlers, the West Indies did the same in Barbados. West Indies Board president, Jeff Stollmeyer told me that the Queen's Park Oval wicket could never be quick unless the whole pitch was dug up. With the Guyana Test washed out, it was a bit fortunate for India that they had two Tests on the Queen's slow-turner.

That being so, none can fault—though it is not the "ultimate" in cricket — Indian Board president, Ram Prakash Mehra's advance notice that wickets for the impending Tests against New Zealand and England would be prepared for our spinners — Bedi, Chandrasekhar, Prasanna and Venkat. He saw nothing improper in it. Why should he in view of the foregoing when wickets are doctored to suit their own bowlers?

Mehra was quick to add that nonetheless efforts to produce fast bowlers in India would go on, but time for the impending series was too short. One suggestion is to play all Ranji Trophy matches on

matting wickets. I should not well come it — net practice, YES. The answer lies in making fast wickets at all levels. The ace spinners should not be alarmed; they will have a look-in if not from the second afternoon, definitely from the third day.

I am no statistician, I dwell on my impressions of the games I have seen. In 1933-34 in India, despite Jardine having the fast Nichols and Clarke, on the then our green, fast wickets, how many wickets did Venky and James Langridge topple — or for that matter Astill? During Sir Donald Bradman's triumph hunt tour of England, despite Lindwall, Miller and Bill Johnston being in their heyday in 1948, did Fines, Joshack and Ian Johnson, the spinners (granting some "soft" wickets in England) go empty-handed? No, their bags were fairly full.

When the late Sir Frank Worrell had had Hall, Goddard, Sobers besides fast-medium Peter King, did not Lance Gibbs remain outstanding figure? As Sir Frank told a Calcutta luncheon meeting so aptly: fast green wickets tend to get slower and slower — and your fine spinners will always have a chance. Thus fast and green wickets at all levels interspersed with matting on concrete for "Nets" seems to be the solution. It will give us fast bowlers, and batsmen who can competently play fast bowling.

IT is more than on the cards that if the rival thinking in the various international bodies persists, before long world sports bodies like the Olympics will be sharply divided between White— and Black and Yellow. The 1976 Montreal Olympics which the African nations boycotted at the last

minute bore testimony to this apprehension. Now comes the threat by the African nations' sports chief that the 1980 Moscow Games might also be boycotted unless the IOC's on the Games' constituents underwent some sharp changes on the question of sports apartheid.

The African boss made a few cogent points. The chief were that the African boycott at Montreal was much too ill-planned, and far too belated, and why pick on only New Zealand while quite a few countries like the USA, the United Kingdom were guilty, even if partially, of exchanges with apartheid-ridden South Africa, officially or unofficially? Thus, the movement should start from now on, he says, and take the matter up with the Moscow Olympics Organising Committee. Moscow has already declared that there would be no ban on any country, it is most unlikely that Moscow will retract from its stand. There lies the rub as such a split seems inevitable, unless meanwhile South African sport has a "change of heart," or the IOC takes appropriate action.

Many years ago, during the second World War, the late Dr P. Subbarayan, then Indian Cricket Board president, made the sage observation (though in another context) "Politics cannot be divorced from the sport of a healthy nation." How correct has the good doctor been though, admittedly, at times this is overdone. One instance: Our sporting "window" enlarged only after independence, before that our sporting contacts were only with those that the British Government approved of!

In badminton, it is becoming the same story with the formation of the ABC (Asian Badminton Confederation) who make it a point to stage their championships on the same dates of the once prestigious All England Championships in London, depriving the latter of much of its glamour, as many of the top players come from the East. The ABC's grouse is similar to those of the Afro-Asian countries vis-a-vis the Olympic "Exco" — largely "White domination." Cannot there be sane heads, all round, to put an end to, what may be called, "White Sports Imperialism"? I wonder.

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FACTS & FIGURES

Landmarks and near-misses

by K. M. MEHER - HOMJI

TONY GREIG required 29 runs in the second innings of the recently concluded final Test at The Oval to better a Gary Sobers landmark.

Had he succeeded, he would have reached 3000 runs in Test cricket. With 122 wickets already in his bag, he would have become the second cricketer after Sobers to have achieved the 3000 runs + 100 wickets Test double.

Sobers had achieved this unique double in 48 Tests. As the recent Oval Test was Greig's 47th, he could have achieved it in one Test less.

But the tall, talkative England skipper could manage only one run. Now he needs 28 runs in the first Test at Delhi against India to equal a Sobers' milestone of 3,000 runs + 100 wickets in 48 Tests.

Much before Sobers and Greig, Australia's great allrounder Keith Miller had come close to this double. When he retired in 1956 after playing 55 Tests, perhaps unknown to himself, he fell 42 runs short — scoring 2958 runs and capturing 170 wickets.

Based on performances, the greatest allrounder in Test history is Gary Sobers. His figures of 8032 runs, 235 wickets and 110 catches in 93 Tests will not be eclipsed for a long, long time.

Richie Benaud is the only player besides Sobers to achieve the "double" double, that is scoring 2000 runs and taking 200 wickets.

In Test cricket. In fact, Benaud took 20 fewer Tests than Sobers to achieve this double, Benaud 60 Tests, Sobers 80.

The double of 1000 runs + 200 wickets is also an "exclusive club," only three members — Benaud, Sobers and Ray Lindwall.

In all 17 cricketers have reached the Test double of 1000 runs + 100 wickets. Vinoo Mankad, the only Indian in the list, is at the top. He achieved the quickest Test double, taking only 23 Tests. Monty Noble took 27 Tests, Benaud 32, Miller 33, Davidson 34 and Sobers 48 — more than double the number of Tests Vinoo took!

Only eight players have achieved the 2000 runs + 100 wickets double, Mankad being the only one from the Indian sub-continent. T. L. Goddard of South Africa achieved this double in minimum Tests, 36. Mankad comes fourth in the list, taking 39 Tests. Still he was quicker than four well-known allrounders: Wilfred Rhodes, Trevor Bailey, Sobers and Benaud.

The month of August 1976 has proved inauspicious for wicketkeepers. One of the greatest of them, Bert Oldfield, aged 82, and the brilliant New Zealand keeper-batsman, Ken Wadsworth, aged only 29, passed away this August.

And Godfrey Evans lost his world record of 219 dismissals behind the wickets.

For Alan Knott, the acrobatic English "keeper," it has been a season of landmarks. In the first Test

TEST DOUBLE OF 1000 RUNS + 100 WICKETS

	T	R	W	Tests to achieve the double
V Mankad (I)	44	2109	162	23
M A Noble (A)	42	1997	121	27
G Giffen (A)	31	1238	103	30
R Benaud (A)	63	2201	248	32
K R Miller (A)	55	2958	170	33
M W Tate (E)	39	1198	155	33
A K Davidson (A)	44	1328	186	34
T L Goddard (S Af)	41	2516	123	36
A W Greig (E)	47	2972	122	37
R K Lindwall (A)	61	1502	228	38
F J Titmus (E)	53	1439	153	40
Intikhab Alam (Pak)	43	1477	108	41
W H Rhodes (E)	58	2325	127	44
I W Johnson (A)	45	1000	109	45
T E Bailey (E)	61	2290	132	47
C S Sobers (WI)	93	8032	235	48
R Illingworth (E)	61	1836	122	49



Mankad

of the current series against the West Indies, he became the only player to take 200 catches in Test history. In the fourth Test at Headingley he equalled Evans' record and in the final Test at The Oval he went two better.

With 3593 runs and 221 dismissals (204 catches, 17 stumpings) Knott is the only player to do the 'keeper's double of 3000 runs and 200 dismissals.

Evans, playing 13 more Tests had managed 2439 runs and 219 dismissals (173 catches, 46 stumpings). He is, thus, the only 'keeper, apart from Knott, to pass 2000 runs + 200 dismissals at Test level.

In all, seven wicketkeepers have achieved the 1000 runs + 100 dismissals double. They are listed below.



Knott

It can be seen that Knott has been the most successful catcher and Bert Oldfield and Evans the most prolific stumpers. Marsh's average of four dismissals per Test is by far the best among regular 'keepers.

Three 'keepers have narrowly missed the list. They are Leslie Ames of England and Ken Wadsworth of New Zealand with 2434 and 1010 runs, respectively, but 96 dismissals each.

What a sad night have been for the enthusiastic, aggressive and youthful Wadsworth!

Australia's Wally Grout claimed 187 victims behind the stumps (163 caught, 24 stumped) — third highest in Test history, but he scored only 890 runs in 51 Tests.

India's Farokh Engineer has a chance of achieving the 'keeper's double. He has already scored 2611 runs, the second highest aggregate among regular wicketkeepers, and has claimed 82 victims (catching 66, stumping 16) in 46 Tests. For the energetic Engineer 18 dismissals stand between his retirement and joining the gallery of all-time greats.

Only four players have done the fielders' double of 1000 runs + 100 catches. They are:

M. C. Cowdrey	114 Tests, 7624 runs, 120 catches
W. R. Hammond	85 Tests, 7249 runs, 110 catches
G. S. Sobers	93 Tests, 8032 runs, 110 catches
I. M. Chappell	72 Tests, 5187 runs, 103 catches

Bob Simpson missed this double by a solitary catch, scoring 4131 runs in 52 Tests and taking 99 catches.

Sobers is the only player in Test

history to do the Test triple of 1000 runs (8032), 100 wickets (235) and 100 catches (110).

Wally Hammond tallied 17 wickets short of the Test triple.

The only current player likely to perform the Test triple in future is Greig. He needs 31 catches.

But already Greig has one all-round feat — all to himself.

Although 14 players have hit a century and taken five wickets in a Test innings and six have scored a half-century and captured 10 wickets in the same Test, Greig is the only one to perform both the feats.

He scored 148 runs and took 6 for 164 in an innings against West Indies in the third Test at Bridge town in 1974. The following year in New Zealand, in the first Test

	T	R	Dis- (Cts + Sts)
			missals
A. P. E. Knott (E)	78	3593	221 (204+17)
T. G. Evans (E)	91	2439	219 (173+46)
R. W. Marsh (A)	41	1967	160 (152+8)
J. H. B. Waite (S. Af.)	50	2405	141 (124+17)
D. L. Murray (WI)	44	1406	135 (128+7)
W. A. Oldfield (A)	54	1427	130 (78+52)
J. M. Parks (E)	46	1962	114 (103+11)

at Auckland, he scored 51 runs and bagged 5 for 98 and 5 for 51.

Our salute to Tony Greig. Despite his limited talent, he has produced such all-round excellence that on figures he can be ranked among the top five allrounders in the 100-year-old history of the game.

NO player in Test history has quite approached Sir Stanley Jackson's all-round domination in the series against Australia in 1905. He won the toss in all five Tests, scored centuries in two of them, headed the batting and bowling averages for both the sides, and led England to a 2-0 victory.

GEORGE GIFFEN, the great Australian allrounder of the 1890s, scored more runs and took more wickets than anyone else in a Test series on either side. For Australia against England in 1894-95, he aggregated 475 runs and 34 wickets, both figures exceeded neither by his colleagues nor by his opponents.

This record of series domination has remained unbeaten after 81 years.



Colin Cowdrey

IT'S HERE Sportsweek's WORLD OF CRICKET

(July-September 1976)

THE West Indies beat England comfortably in the five-Test series. Alex Bannister describes it as "Arm-chair ride to victory," while Tony Cozier explains how the West Indies rose from the ashes to triumph within six months. Plus Test by Test account by Tony Cozier with score cards, statistics and averages by B. B. Manna. And eye-catching action pics from Patrick Eagar, Sporting Pics and Central Photos.

R. T. Brantenden and Tony Lewis discuss the prospects of the New Zealand and MCC tours of India. Action pics of MCC players and portraits of the Kiwis you would like to possess.

Ravi Robinson features England's over-reliance on veterans. John Woodcock writes about intimidation — a major problem which remains unsolved — and Michael Melford and Bishen Bedi survey the English county season.

Ajit Wadekar and Ron Hendricks preview India's chances in the two-series. Raghunath Rau discusses the burning topic of producing fast bowlers and Sunder Rajar pleads for action and less words.

Profiles of Vivian Richards, Gordon Greenidge and Bob Woolmer. Ranji Trophy, Duleep Trophy and other first-class career averages of leading Indian players by Sudhir Vaidya.

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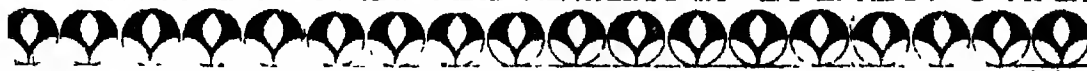
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-----cut here-----

BADMINTON in Maharashtra is passing through a transformation period when old styles and techniques are slowly giving place to new ones, and young players with good physique and stamina and a robust approach to the game are coming to the fore, while the old stalwarts are hard put to adapt themselves to and cope with the new trends.

In the seniors' section, Maharashtra's men and women suffered a severe setback early this season when they failed to find a single place in the Indian squad for the Asian Badminton Confederation Championships, to be held at Hyderabad later this month. Pradeep Gandhe and Sujata Jain were the only two contenders from the State taking part in the Central India Championships at Jabalpur, which was the selection tournament. Both of them were discarded, Gandhe because of his patchy display and Sujata Jain because of a raw deal from the selectors.

Maharashtra's prestige and image was further tarnished when their men gained the dubious distinction of losing for the first time since its inception the West Zone title. Maharashtra's defeat was the outcome of some miscalculations and poor judgment on the part of skipper Anil Pradhan, who broke up an established doubles combination of Asif Parpia and Pradeep Gandhe, the State champions.

It is a tragedy that after much of the State's strength in the men's and the women's sections was drained off as the Railways, both the Central and the Western, picked almost all the topnotch stars, the State has had to rely on the old guard of Asif Parpia, Anil Pradhan, Ramesh Nabai, Sat Pal Rawat and Atul Premnarayan, all of whom have been representing the State for more or less a decade now and are all past their prime.

Pradeep Gandhe, after his migration from Nagpur to Bombay, went from strength to strength and today is undoubtedly the leading light. But despite his amazing improvement and adaptation of a game of speed and power, he shows up several rough edges and vulnerable spots, and, more than anything else, he is not consistent. As is the case generally with all players, he lacks accuracy and commits too many unforced errors.

Gandhe is fortunate to have expert guidance from the indefatigable and dedicated NIS coach Pramanik, but is not able to translate justifiably this sound training into tangible results. He showed his mettle when in the Central Railway Dadar Institute tourney, which was also concurrently the Greater Bom-

Youth to the fore



Uday Pawar

bay District Badminton Championships, he beat Asif Parpia after a marathon tussle at 15-10, 5-15, 15-12, but within a week's time in the Matunga Gymkhana Open tourney he made his exit almost unceremoniously, losing to Karnataka's hard-hitter P. Chengappa, 2-15, 13-15.

Chengappa was thrashed in the same competition in the semi-finals by Asif Parpia, 2-15, 3-15 in 15 minutes. Gandhe seems to find a bugbear in Chengappa, for he lost to him once again in the Jabalpur selection tournament at 3-15, 15-6, 2-15, to be discarded from the Indian team for the Asian Championships.

Once again in the State Championships at the Punjab Association court, Gandhe confirmed his superiority over Parpia when he beat him in the semi-finals at 13-15, 15-3, 17-15 in a close finish after saving four match points at 12-14 in the decider. He, however, lost tamely to Iqbal Maindargi, of Central Railway, in the final at 4-15, 8-15. Later in the P. J. Hindu Gymkhana final Gandhe put up a resolute fight almost to beat Maindargi but lost a close 65-minute battle of attrition at 15-10, 14-17, 15-18.

It was truly one of his best performances. Gandhe, who had beaten Anil Pradhan hands down in the P. J. Hindu Gymkhana semi-finals at 15-7, 15-2, ended the season on a dismal note when he gave a patchy display in the Khar Gymkhana final recently to go down to Pradhan, 15-4, 5-15, 16-17.

Stocky Sunil Vakil is the other player in the State who has shown marked improvement but his bulky physique puts limitations on his progress. He caused a sensation in

the WIAA semi-finals when he shocked Asif Parpia, the top seed, but could not maintain the tempo and lost to Anil Pradhan in the final. Pradhan has beaten him often these two seasons.

The young collegians Jaydev Merchant, Rajan Midha, Ranbir Singh, Cyrus Nallaseth and Nagpur's Ram Mudaliar, Anurudh Deshmukh and T. Thomas have still a long way to go and lack maturity.

It will not be too long when juniors Uday Pawar, Madhur Bezborra and Ravi Kunte will make their mark in the senior events. They are all being trained regularly and intensively by Pramanik.

In the women's and the juniors' events Maharashtra have kept up their reputation still and continue to dominate the West Zone tourney of the Inter State Championships. In Sujata Jain and Sudha Bafna, the State champion and the runner-up, respectively, Maharashtra has two stalwarts who on their day are capable of upsetting the best in the country. But they have to put in greater efforts and train harder to get to the top.

Kamal Vimadatal, Padmanab Raut and Sujata Mehle are the up-and-coming women but they all lack consistency and concentration. Here too the junior trio of Manik Kelkar, Hufirish Nariman (both Pramanik's pupils) and Ameeta Kulkarni are capable of shocking some of them and will surely be the future stars in the women's section.

The state at present could pride themselves on the achievements of its juniors. Given the timely guidance from experts for a couple of years now in regard to the modern methods of physical training and intensive on-court practice sessions the juniors, Uday Pawar, Madhur Bezborra, Ravi Kunte, S. Hukku, the Dhume brothers, Milind and Pankaj, among the boys, and Manik Kelkar, Hufirish Nariman and Ameeta Kulkarni, among the girls, have shown tremendous progress.

They carved a niche for themselves when they won seven out of nine titles in the inaugural Junior National Championships at Calcutta last June.

In the West Zone of the Inter-State Championships, where for the first time the juniors' event was bifurcated into the boys' and the girls' events with separate trophies donated, the Maharashtra juniors made a clean sweep of all the matches.

—SW Correspondent

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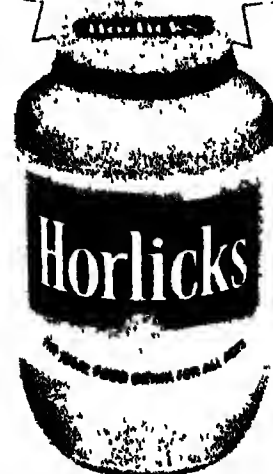
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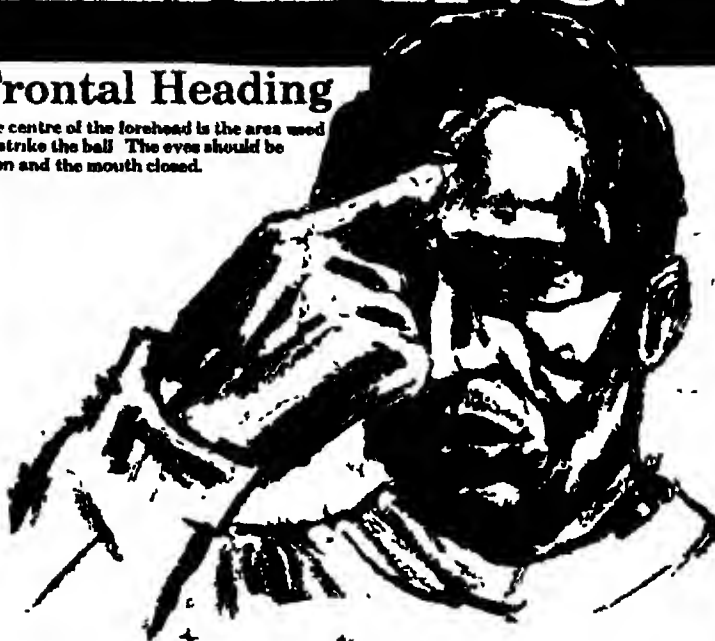
Pele: The Master and His Method

HEADING

Adaptation: Ken Taylor

Frontal Heading

The centre of the forehead is the area used to strike the ball. The eyes should be open and the mouth closed.



By throwing the ball harder and harder on to his forehead, the young player can discover for himself that heading does not hurt.

Heading with Power

Powerful heading is achieved by a vigorous swing of the body bending back at the waist, then snapping forward to punch the ball with the forehead.



Jumping to head: the arms are swung up as the trunk and legs bend back, then thrashed down as the body jack-knifes forward, throwing the head at the ball.



Cricketers of the week—21

BIRTHS

October 17: R Kilner (Eng)
1890, M P Donnelly (NZ) 1917,
A Brown (Eng) 1935

October 18: L C Braund (Eng)
1875, R V Divecha (Ind) 1927,
D H. Shodhan (Ind) 1928

October 19: W H Ponsford
(Aus) 1903, H Gimblett (Eng)
1914, B C Booth (Aus) 1933, T M
Findlay (WI.) 1913

October 20: G B. Studd (Eng)
1859, K Cranston (Eng) 1917

October 21: P G Vander Bill
(SA) 1907, J M Parks (Eng)
1931, G Boycott (Eng) 1940, You-
nis Ahmed (Pak) 1947

October 22: M Hendrick (Eng)
1948

October 23: D R Jardine (Eng)
1900, T Dewdney (WI) 1933,
B W Sinclair (NZ) 1936, C Mil-
burn (Eng) 1941

DEATHS

October 20: K Farnes (Eng)
1941

October 23: W G Grace (Eng)
1915

—K ISWAPA DUTT

Snippets...

Women bowlers are getting faster Rachel Heyhoe Flint, the England captain, commented that chest protection may be necessary in future But she added "We don't want the bouncers problem in our game"

Reacting to former England captain Ted Dexter's remark that the women were overdoing the 'tough guy' act by scorning protectors, Rachel quipped "We don't wear boxes either — just manhole covers"

England took a drubbing in this summer's series against the touring West Indies, but the treasurers were able to rub their hands in glee

The Test series drew a total of 382,000 fans with gate receipts aggregating Rs. 3,25,000

By contrast, the Australians last year played one Test fewer and drew Rs. 1,95,000 at the gate

Sportraits

mini-portraits of maxi-stars...

Mushtaq Mohammad

by JOHN ARLOTT

MUSHTAQ MOHAMMAD is recognised as an outstanding cricketer, but not always for all the valid reasons He is remembered as 'the youngest' — the youngest man to play first-class cricket (at 13 and 41 days), to appear in a Test (at 15 years 124 days), and to score a Test century (at 17 years 82 days) When he made his first major tour of England, in 1962, he was a lad of 18, but he did enough to become one of Wisden's Cricketers of the Year

His chubby cheeks, 'cherubic' expression, white smile and modest manner emphasised the impression of youth He could be a buoyantly attacking batsman and often would switch the bat in his hands to play a ball from a left-arm spinner, in effect, left-handed So an idea was fostered that Mushtaq was a gay, boyish, carefree cricketer

In truth he is as stern a competitor as any of his competitive brothers — or as any cricketer in the world That first Test century at Delhi in 1960-61 was played to save a Test and the rubber against India, his second, against England at Trent Bridge in 1962, lasted over five hours and drew the match

He is, by nature and urge, a stroke-maker, especially against pace bowling, which he hooks and cuts brilliantly and, at opportunity, will drive wristily Yet, in many ways, he has inherited from his brother Hanif as the anchor-man of the Pakistan batting He too is deeply conscious of his family's reputation.

Mushtaq is superbly technically equipped with a sharp eye, instinctive identification of length, nimble footwork, an innate sense of timing and the striking power of a compactly built and muscular 13 stone man

He is a fine, and frequently brilliant, batsman against any bowling Under all his skills lies the determination, the concentration and the reluctance to get out which mark the good professional

All this might suggest Mushtaq is a batsman pure and simple On the contrary, there is barely a bet-

ter leg-spinner in the world He is more accurate than most of that kind, genuinely spins the ball, and hides his googly well Only two current wrist spinners, Chandrasekhar and Intikhab, have taken more than his 40 wickets in Tests His ability is such that often one wonders whether, if he were not a good batsman, he might not be substantially effective solely as a leg-spinner

While he has scored over 30,000 runs at an average of about 42, he has taken nearly 800 wickets at 23 When he first came to England — with the Pakistani Eaglets of 1958 at the age of 14 — he kept wicket Since then he has been a nimble fieldsmen in the covers and a safe catcher close to the bat

Mushtaq was already a nature cricketer at first-class and Test level when he joined Northamptonshire in 1961 at the age of 20 While he was qualifying for Championship play he won the 1963 single-wicket tournament at Lord's

He has made two centuries in a match — and quite beguiling they were — and won a Gillette Man of the Match award Now, still only 31, he has played in 36 Tests, more than any other current Pakistani except the — sadly — deposed Intikhab His Test batting average is 42.27, exceeded only among contemporary Pakistani players — by a mere 19 — by his younger brother, Sadiq

Once the impression of Mushtaq as a light-hearted cricketer is dispelled, he becomes one to be savoured Before he faces any ball he gives his bat the Mohammad family twirl and then, stern jutting, he is prepared to face whatever the bowler may deliver

Whether he attacks or defends, he is an entertaining batsman to watch because he is so fluid in movement, so balanced, adroit and essentially aggressive His resistance is never graceless nor lacking in imagination In the most dogged innings he will identify the punishable ball and demolish it with a splendid punitive stroke.

Courtesy:

The Cricketer International



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by JIMMY MEHTA

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K x x
x x
J x
A K J x x x
N
S
A Q x x
Q x x
A x x
x x x

Neither side vulnerable
Bidding

S	W	N	E
1 S	Pass	2 C	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	

Lead D 10

Dummy's knave fetches the Queen from RHO won by your Ace. Your LHO is the formidable Dr Tibrewala and RHO Shevak Punjabi. How do you proceed?

You are now wide open in the red suits and your club guess will make all the difference between a three trick set and a comfortable ride home with over-tricks. Is there a clue?

The hand cropped up in a match between Ruia's and Tibrewala's. I have switched the N/S & E/W

positions for the reader's convenience.

The Ruia declarer cashed the club Ace, entered his hand with the spade Ace and played a second club going up with dummy's King. East showing out. Declarer, hoping for miracles, now surrendered a club to West and finished five down.

In the other room Tibrewala's team reached the same contract on this sequence.

S	W	N	E
1 D	Pass	2 C	Pass
2 S	Pass	3 NT	

North's final bid with a doubleton rag in the unbid major might not be everybody's cup of tea but I suppose he has a difficult rebid. Any way he was lucky to be playing from the North end and to get the lead of the S J, after which he proceeded meticulously to destroy the hand. He won the lead in hand for some obscure reason, cashed the club Ace, entered dummy with a spade honour and played a second club to his King. He was now doomed to a three-trick set but the defence let him escape with two down. This was the full hand.

K x x
x x
J x
A K J x x x

x
K J 8 2
K 10 9 x x
Q 10 x

J 10 9 x x
A 10 x x
Q x x
x

A Q x x
Q x x
A x x
x x x

The play in the first room was unimaginative, but in the second

I leave the comments to you.

The Ruia player could have done better by cashing spades in an at-

tempt to gather information about the unseen hands. West shows out on the second spade and a mental picture of his hand is in the offing. He could probably be 5-5 or 6-4 in the red suits with a doubleton club and a singleton spade or 5-4 or 6-3 in the red suits with three clubs and a spade. I think on the bidding wilder distribution can be discounted.

The question is whether West is more likely to have nine cards in the red suits or ten. Is West's failure to butt in not perhaps more suggestive of only nine red cards? When West is Dr Tibrewala, this probability is greater. Tibrewala needs little excuse to operate, which is one of the factors which makes him such a dangerous opponent.

What about the hand-pattern? The N/S hands seem balanced, but what about E/W? Might not West's singleton find an echo with East? Am I being a result-merchant? You be the judge.

The declarer in the other room did not give himself a chance. Even after his play to trick one, his best chance was to cash a club, enter the South hand via a spade, and take a second-round club finesse. West's silence and singleton spade now make the finesse at least as attractive as the play for the drop. Further by finessing, North has a chance of enjoying the best of both worlds. Even if he loses to a doubleton club Queen, a heart return is by no means certain.

In practice, I think the Ace of spades at trick one followed by a first round club finesse would have succeeded most of the time. At trick two even were the finesse to fail East would be in darkness and might fail to find the killing return.

RECORD BOOK

ON May 28, 1960, a British runner stepped up into the ranks of world sprint record holders — the first athlete from Great Britain to do so since W R Applegarth in 1914.

The name of the 20-year-old runner whose brilliant performance caused such excitement throughout the athletics world on that memorable occasion was Peter Frank Radford, from Walsall, Staffordshire.

Memorable is somewhat of an understatement. It was the greatest moment in the life of this dedicated young athlete. He was competing at the Staffordshire County Championships at Wolverhampton.

In his heat of the 100 yards event he returned a time of 9.4 seconds, to equal the United Kingdom all-comers record, then won

the final in 9.3 seconds, to equal the world record.

His finest performance was yet to come, however. In the 220 yards final, run on a curved course, he sped round the long curve of the track and raced to the tape in a time of 20.5 seconds — the fastest 220 yards ever run on a curved track and a new world record.

Radford, in fact, set up two new world records, for his time was also a best ever for 200 metres.

For the sake of the uninitiated it should be explained that in 1959 it was decided to institute two separate record classes for the 200 metres and 220 yards — one for a straight track, the other for a course in which there was a full bend or turn.

So on that May afternoon in

1960 Peter Radford made athletics history — and no athlete had ever more justly earned the honour. But for the miracles of modern medical science, and his own indomitable courage and determination, the record achievements would not have been possible.

When he was five years old he was struck down with a serious kidney disease. At one time doctors despaired of his life. For two years he was in a wheelchair.

But young Peter was given a second chance, thanks to his doctors and he took it with all the resilient resolution of youth.

At the age of 12 he began to take an interest in sport, helped and encouraged by his schoolmasters. Soon he was proving himself a more than capable runner and the supreme optimism and courage that enabled him to conquer his boyhood illness spurred him on to become Britain's No. 1 sprinter.

--DAVID HENDERSON

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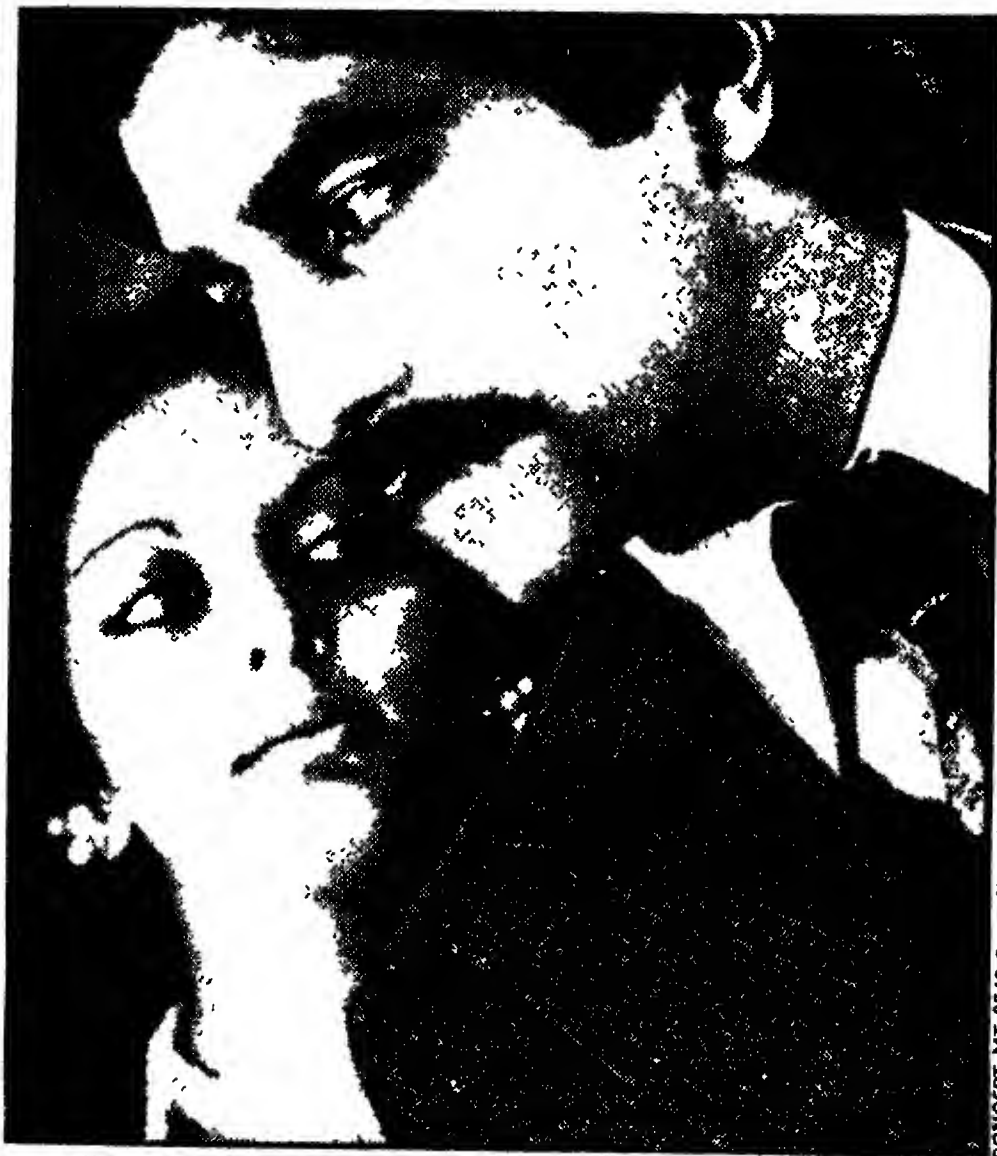
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Zonal round-up **NORTH** Rajasthan triumph

THE idea of conducting inter zone tournaments, started by the Basketball Federation of India to provide more competition to the players are somehow not very well received by respective state associations. The West Zone basketball tournament is one such example. The venue of the five-team tournament, which was originally scheduled to be held at Jhunjhunu, about 150 km from Jaipur, was shifted to Jaipur overnight.

Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Goa are grouped in the 'B' Zone by the BFI. Jhunjhunu, a small town which has produced many millionaires had made all arrangements to stage the championship. But the last minute withdrawal of Gujarat, MP and Goa left the organisers in a quandary. Only two teams Maharashtra and Rajasthan agreed to take part in the meet.

Since only two teams were left the organising secretary A. N. Iyer spoke to the Jaipur-based BFI chief Ramakant over telephone. Ramakant told him to cancel all the arrangements at Jhunjhunu and the venue was shifted from Jhunjhunu to Jaipur.

The Maharashtra team were asked to break journey at Jaipur. The Rajasthan Basketball Association didn't make any effort to provide good arrangements for them. The organisers of F. I. Birney Memorial



Rajasthan, winners of the two-team West Zone basketball tournament

Tournament came to their help and they arranged everything for them.

Most associations do not have enough funds to meet the expenses of travel etc. These poor associations live on the mercy of kind patrons who help them when they prepare for the Nationals. Apart from finance, these teams, who withdrew, seem to be thinking that they will get good thrashing from Rajasthan and Maharashtra and they really don't stand a chance of reaching the Inter-Zone stage also.

Fielding eight internationals, Rajasthan scored a comfortable victory over Maharashtra to avenge last year's defeat. Though Rajasthan won by a margin of 13 points (95-82) the scores doesn't reflect the ease with which Rajasthan won.

The only tense moment for Rajasthan was after the first half when Maharashtra switched over to man-to-man defence narrowing the margin. Recovering from this shock, Rajasthan soon found their bearings and never let Maharashtra come closer.

Able guarded by Paramjit Singh and Raman Gupta, Rajasthan had a very good defence. Hanuman Singh was a class above others with his fielding and Khushiram, the veteran of many battles, excelled with his accurate shooting.

Maharashtra lacked a good feeder and this handicapped them. Abdul Hamid excelled with his long distant shots and was perhaps the best shooter of the match.

—PRAKASH BHANDARI

Shashi wins

ALLAHABAD

GRFAI enthusiasm was witnessed in the 10 km walk organised by the Regional Sports Office on the occasion of the Gandhi Jayanti at the Malviya Stadium.

As many as 27 competitors in the open section and 32 in the boys' section (below 18 years) took part. The open section's honours went to Shashi, who clocked one hour 01 second. He was followed by Pandu Rangam and Muniappan.

Om Prakash came first in the boys' section with a timing of one hour 85 seconds. The second and third places were secured by Indu Kant and Alok Kumar Tewari, respectively.

—S. NTOSH SINGH

Allahabad basketball

ALLAHABAD

JAMUNA Christian annexed the Sports Department Inter Institutional Basketball trophy by virtue of their 56-41 points win over St. Joseph's in the final played at the Stadium here. Joseph's Philips put up a brilliant performance for the winners. He topped the scoring list with 26 points, followed by Shiv Babu Singh 15, M. Dixit 9 and Pitamber 6. But the day's honours went to Bernard Xavier of St. Joseph's who scored all the points (41) for his team. St. Joseph's took part for the first time in this tournament and, considering this, it was a no mean achievement. Eight institutions vied for the coveted trophy.

Bridge

EIGHT teams participated in the team of four progressive event for Dassana trophy in the District Bridge Championship. Deepak's team represented by Deepak Agrawal, Nirmal Agrawal, P. C. Ghosh, C. K. Bhargava and Ramesh Shukla won the event with a tally of 25 points. The runners-up berth went to Allahabad Bridge Institute, represented by Dr. R. J. Burke, A. K. Gupta, H. Kaul and D. N. Srivastava, who totalled 23 points. Accounts Club and S. N. Agrawal's team shared the third position with 22 points each.

Allahabad Bridge Institute cornered the glory in the pairs contest, when two of its pairs — Dr. Burke, A. K. Gupta and V. P. Gupta, O. P. Tewari — secured highest places in the North-South and East-West directions.

Zonal round-up

EAST

Burnpur soccer

BURNPUR

HOSTS Burnpur United Club lifted the Routledge challenge trophy, beating Kulti Football Club 3-1 in the final here recently. In the 20th minute of the first half, outside-left Animesh Mitra put Kulti ahead. But five minutes later, inside-left Manab Chakraborty of Burnpur levelled the scores with a beautiful placement. Just after the breather, outside-right Parbati Roy put Burnpur ahead with a spectacular, powerful, angular drive from the top of the penalty box. In the dying minutes, left striker Manab Chakraborty of Burnpur scored again.

In the semi-finals, Burnpur defeated Coal Mines Sports Association (Eastern Coalfields Limited) of Sanctoria 2-1, in an exciting and well-contested match. Durgapur Steel Plant lost to Kulti by a solitary goal.

SEVENTH Battalion State Armed Police of Satgram Colliery won the Swaraj Smriti Football trophy, beating Raniganj Sporting Club by two goals to one in a well-contested final tie here recently.

TARUN SANGHA of Shyamnagar defeated Yugar Prateek, 5-1 in the final of the District Senior Division Football league conducted by the Sports Organisation of 24 Parganas here recently.



From left, Abijit Dasgupta, Natesan Ganesh and Prabodh Sanghvi, winners of the Calcutta to Jamshedpur Motor Car Rally, organised by the Calcutta Motor Sports Club Ltd.

Bengal T.T. coaching



Young boys and girls undergoing training under the Bengal Table Tennis Association coaching scheme in Calcutta

Indian Iron win cross-country

DURGAPUR.

INDIAN Iron & Steel Company of Burnpur lifted the Inter Steel Plant Cross Country race collecting 48 points and Durgapur Steel Plant secured the runners-up berth and BSP finished third.

T. T. John of TISCO, Jamshedpur won the individual championship crossing the 14.5 km. race clocking 46 minutes, 10 seconds. Sudharshan Minz of IISCO got the second position, while Soumen Dey of DSP came third. The race was organised by the Alloy Steel Plant of Durgapur.

Asansol soccer league

ASANSOL

BURNPUR UNITED CLUB annexed the Asansol senior soccer league title when they beat Buddha Football Club, Asansol, by a solitary goal in an exciting and well-contested final here recently.

Kalyan Samity of Burnpur lifted the second division football league and Court Road Club, Asansol finished the runners-up. Ramban dhu Friends Club won the third division soccer league and Old Station Boys Club finished the runners-up. Eighteen teams in first division, 16 in second division and 14 in third division participated.

Neogi's brace

EASTERN RAILWAY Ashim Memorial Football Tournament ended here recently. In the final Sealdah Division beat Howrah DSA 2-0. Right striker Utpal Neogi of Sealdah scored both the goals.

Floodlit soccer

NETAJI Athletic Club lifted the Amitabha Memorial football tournament, ousting Nabin Athletic Club 7-1 in a one-sided floodlit football final here recently. It was the first floodlit football tournament in the Burdwan District. Eight teams took part. Mantu Mazumder, veteran footballer, presided over the function.

—NANI GOPAL PAI.

Zonal round-up

WEST

AFTER about four months the Nadkarni Cup Football Tournament, which ushered in the Bombay soccer season, came to a close on Sunday, October 10. Central Bank regained the Cup they had won only once before in 1973 when they outclassed joint holders of last year, Mafatlal Group, in the replayed final by three goals to one. The first meeting between the two had ended goalless.

The form that Central Bank displayed in the two meetings in the final augurs well for their chances in the super league of the Harwood Football League. They emphasised in the replay that they are the most balanced side, with their attack the best in Bombay, their linkmen better than any other club pair and their goalkeeper shaping as well as any.

Central Bank should not have needed a replay to justify their claim to take the cup. For, in the first meeting, they had pushed back the early thrusts of Mafatlal when Stephen Godinho was in a menacing mood and methodically gained control of the proceedings and cut through the Mafatlal defence. Skipper Prasannan and Surendra John overshadowed their counterparts, Thomas Fernandes and Harikishen Thapa in midfield. With a mobile attack to facilitate the linkmen's task, Central Bank gained and held the upper hand, though Mafatlal forced themselves into the picture in the second half.

Mafatlal, whose deep defence was unsteady, were fortunate that referee Freddie D'Souza disallowed what looked a good goal by Francis Nunes midway through the second half.



The triumphant Central Bank team held aloft the Nadkarni Cup

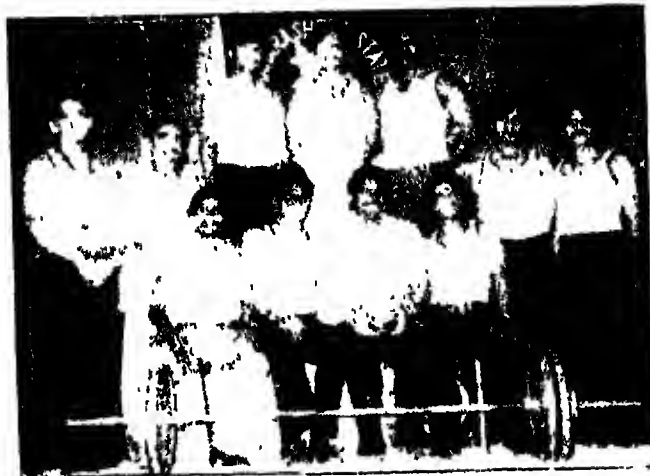
In the replay Central Bank were even more dominant. This despite Prasannan and John giving Thomas Fernandes and Harikishen more room in midfield. Also, unlike in the first meeting, Central Bank got into their stride from the start. But Bhaskar Maity, who was played instead of Saldanha in the Mafatlal goal, was not easily beaten, though Prasannan and Sunil William contrived to leave the Mafatlal defence and Maity helpless as William moved into the box on a lob by Prasannan and volleyed home.

Central Bank played the much better football. They moved the ball about more quickly with passes of ten to twelve yards' length to keep the Mafatlal defence going round and about till

they found the gaps for a forward to break through. This fine play did not add to the bankmen's tally in the first half. Their second goal came when Balakrishnan, who had brilliantly rose high to prevent Prasannan's beautiful chipped free kick over Bablu Biswas' head reaching Nunes. But as he veered to his right to clear and as Maity was moving sideways to accept a backpass the ball deflected off the Mafatlal skipper and gave Nunes the chance to drive into the unguarded net.

Rattan Thapa's headed goal raised Mafatlal's hopes, but Zeno Rodrigues' fine drive from the left of the penalty box soon after killed them.

—SW Correspondent



The Social Service League's Gymnasium, Parul team won the seventh Greater Bombay novices weightlifting title



Former international table tennis player Nayerah Mowla was recently married to Hossain Bevad. The couple are now living in Kansas, USA

Zonal round - up

SOUTH

Madurai carrom

V LAZAR, India No 1, with immaculate allround mastery, brushed aside the spirited challenge of Dilli, India No 2, at 29 20, 29 24 to claim the coveted Bhupathy Trophy in the first All India Open Carrom Tournament which concluded in Madurai on October 3

The clash of the nation's two top notchers was a grand finale to this well organised tournament which attracted 64 players for the singles and 36 teams for the doubles. During Dilli to the 24-point mark, after winning the first game with a brilliant white century, Lazar coasted to a brilliant victory in the second game with consummate ease

The Lazar Dilli combination proved too good for the Tamil



Lazar and Dilli (right) receiving the K R. Menon trophy for the doubles from Bangara Babu

Nadu State ranking players of Nandakumar and Santhalingam and won at 29 15, 29 29, 29 13 in the final and claimed the K R Menon Trophy

Of the 30 local aspirants, the one to impress most was J N Govindhan. This 23-year-old mathematic

graduate and India No 6, was very impressive with his rolling and jumping shots. His victory-march was put to an end by India No 3, J M Vasu of Karnataka who beat him 15 29, 29 3, 29 19 in the quarter finals

-- SW Correspondent

MEG claim honours

BANGALORE

THAT they were absolutely fit and trained to perfection was evident. Madras Engineering Group ran away with the South Globe Trotters Athletic Union's Gloster Lake Circuit Relay on Gandhi Jayanti Day

Kerala sports-scribes association

COCHIN

THE Sports scribes of Kerala has formed, at last, the association. A meeting convened by five leading sports editors of the State, was held at local YMCA under the presidency of veteran writer, K P R Krishnan, and elected I D Paul of Indian Express, Cochin as president, and Babu Mather of Statesman, Cochin as secretary. K P R Krishnan of Mathrubhumi and Shyamalayan Krishnan Nair of Akashwani were elected vice-presidents

Vithura Baby of Janavugom will be the joint secretary, while Mohandas of Deshabhuvan, will act as treasurer. An executive with the following were also elected: Abuo, Vimser, Baby John, B P Moideen, and D Aravindan. It was decided to seek affiliation to the All India Federation of Sports Journalists and to award a 'Best Sportsman' and 'Sportswoman' trophy each year

—YEKEY

There were 60 athletes taking part in 12 teams (five in each) with each athlete having to run two miles and three furlongs — quite a testing distance

The triumphant Madras Engineering Group 'A' quintette consisted of Kubendran, Annase, Arumugam, Raja Sandow and Francis in that order. They clocked 50 mins 44 secs failing to beat the record of 49 51 set up by MEG who have won the first two relays and were beaten to second place last year by CARP. Surprisingly, CARP were not there to defend their title. Even the poor entry of 12 teams was a poor reflection on so many top clubs who did not participate

MEG 'B' finished second and KSRP III Battalion third

Efficiency, as usual, was the key note of the meet with founder-manager Percy Satur and family once again in charge of the whole proceedings

—R ARVINDAM

HOLDERS Tamil Nadu, won the South Zone Women's cricket tournament, to retain the trophy for the third year running.

The Tamil Nadu girls were easily the best team on view — what with Test players like skipper Sudha Shah, wicketkeeper Fowzieh Khaleel and allrounder Susan Iticheria in their ranks. They won all their three matches convincingly

—ASHOK KAMATH

Ravi Sekhar wins

THE eight-day Open chess tournament for the G Guruswamy Naidu Memorial Trophy, which concluded in Kalavamputhur, about four miles west of the famous pilgrim centre of the South, the Palani Hills, recently, was a boon to the chess enthusiasts, for it was the only such tournament to be held in this part of South India with players drawn from the four states of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Karnataka

The reigning national champion Ravi Sekhar emerged victorious defeating a promising youngster, V Hariharan from Tirunelveli in the penultimate round. A former state champion, R. machandran, however, exhibiting a superb display of aggressive chess put an end to the all conquering run of Ravi Sekhar in the last round

The other highlights of the tournament undoubtedly were the draws of India's only international, Manuel Aaron against lesser known players and his defeat against Suresh of Madras. Aaron blundered inexplicably in a winning position and allowed Suresh to queen a pawn. While making the winning move (KQ6) in the score sheet Aaron played a wrong move (PN7). Ebulient Muruganandam held Aaron to a draw. As both the players chopped each other's pieces over 53 moves, the draw became inevitable

The Kerala state champion Sivaraman and another player from Kerala, Antony, held Aaron to draws

—SW Correspondent



THE Exchange Variation (QBPxQP) followed by minor Pawn attack on the Queen side is a slow but sure method for White to gain advantage in Queen's Gambit when Black plays the Orthodox Defence. Here are two games won by Ravi Sekhar with his weapon in the Bhilwara Trophy Tournament at Madras. Incidentally, after getting only half a point from his first 4 games, Ravi Sekhar scored 8 from the remaining 9

QUEEN'S GAMBIT

(Orthodox Defence)

White: R Ravi Sekhar

Black: Mohamed Hassan

1 P04, NKB3 2 P0B4, PK3 3 NKB3, P04 4 NB3, BK2 (a) 5. BN5, 00 6 PK3, PB3 7 PxP, (b) KPxP 8 QB2, Nk5 9 BxR, QxB 10 HQ3, PKB4 11 00, NQ2 12 QRN1, PKN1 (c) 13 PQN4, RB3, 14 PN5, RR3 15 PN3, PN5 16 NQ2, NB1 (d) 17 PxP, PxP 18 NK2! (e) QN4 19 NKB4, BQ2 20 BxN, BPxB 21 QN3! (f), NK3 22 QN7, RQ1 23 NxN, BxN 24 KRB1, RKB1 25 NB1, QB4 26 RB2, PB4! (g) 27 PxP, BB1 28 QxP, BK3 29 RN8! (h) BxN 30 RxxRch, QxR 31 RN2, RR3 32 QB7, RR1 33 RN7, QR3 34 RN8ch, RxxR 35 QxxRch, KB2 36 QB7ch, kK1 37 QK5ch, KB1 38 QN8ch, KB2 39 QN7ch, KK1 40 KxB, QxxRP 41 QxxQP, QR8ch 42 KK2, QQN8 43 PB6, KK2 44 QQ7ch, KB3 45 PB7, Black resigns

(a) 4 PB4 (Semi Tarrasch Defence) and 4 PB3 (Semi Slav Defence) are possible alternatives when White delays BKN5

(b) The Exchange Variation is

usually played after Black's QN02 as in the next game.

(c) Black must counter White's Queen side minority Pawn attack by aggressive King side play... PQR3 or PQR4 would result in the opening of QR-file later and the exchange of Black's QR which he needs for back rank defence

(d) Better seems 16... NxN(7) 17 QxN, QN4 when White will have to weaken his King side to defend KR2

(e) The Knight manoeuvre prevents Black's Queen from going to the KR-file and Black's Knight from joining in the attack

(f) By threatening Black's KP White gains a tempo for entry of his Queen to the 7th rank

(g) A desperate bid to activate the Bishop and create complications at the cost of two Pawns

(h) Just in time 29 RxB?, QR4 or 29 KxB?, RxB and Black wins

White: R Ravi Sekhar

Black: S Nasir Ali

1 P04, NKB3 2 P0B4, PK3 3 NKB3, P04 4 NB3, PQR3 5 PxP (5 PB5 is a good alternative) PxP 6 BN5, BK2 7 PK3, QN02 8 QB2, PB3 9 BQ3, PR3 10 BR4, 00 11 00, RK1 12 QRN1, NK5 13 BxB, QxB 14 PQN4, PKB4 15 PQR4 PKN4 16 PN5, RPxP 17 PxP, RR6



The Madras University team, winners of the Dr. Karan Singh Silver Trophy for chess. From left: V Ravichandran, T. G. Rajendran (manager), S. Manikandaswamy (capt.), R. Krishnan, T. N. Parmeshwaran, T. Swaminathan

18 RN3, RxxR 19 QxxR, PN5 20. BxN, BPxB 21 NQ2, NB3 22. PxP, PxP 23 RR1, RB1 24. QN6, BQ2 25 QN7, PN6? (a miscalculation overlooking the pinning of the Rook, but in any case White will steer for the end game which is bad for Black because of his backward QBP and bad Bishop). 26. RPxP, NN5 27 RR8, QB2 28 NQ1, RxxR 29 QxxRch, KN2 30 QN7, KN3 31 NN3, QK1 32 NB5, BR4 33. NB3, (White Knights get dominating posts on QB5 and KB4) KN4 34 NK2, NB3 (34... QR4 fails because of 35 QK7ch, KN3? 36 NB4ch) 35 QN7ch, QN3 36 QK7, QR2 37 NK6ch, BxN 38. QxB, QQ2 39 NB4, QxQ 40 NxQch, KB4 41. NQ8, PB4 42 PxP and White won.

END GAME

Last week's ending by S. V. Simhadri

White: Ka8; Ra1

Black: Kh3, P's-g7, h7.

1 Rg1!, Ph5 2 Rg5!, Ph4 3 Kb7, Kh2 4 Kc6 Ph3 5 Kd5, Kh1 6. Ke4, Ph2 7 Kf3, Pg6 8 Ra5 and mates

If 1 Rh1ch? Kg3 2 Rxxh7, Pg5 etc., or 1 Ra7?, Ph5 2 Rxxg7, Ph4 etc.; or 1 Ra5, Kg4 etc.; all draw

After 1 Rg1!, Pg5 2 Rxxg5, Kh4 3 Rg7 Ph5 4 Kb7 etc wins; also if 1... Pg6 2 Kb7, Kh4 3. Kc6 Pg5 4 Kd5, Ph5 5 Ke4, Pg4 6 Ke3 Ph4... Kf2 wins

How much do you know?

- 1 May a hockey player tackle an opponent from the left?
- 2 Can a boxer who has won only one of the three rounds be declared winner?
- 3 Which swords are used in Olympic fencing?
- 4 What should be the distance between two goal lines in water polo?
- 5 How many hurdles can an athlete drop in a race?

- 6 What is a good return in squash?
- 7 What should be the size of the mat in international freestyle wrestling?

ANSWERS

1 He may, provided he plays the ball without previous interference with the stick or the person of his opponent 2 Yes, if the total points scored by him at the end of the bout is higher than his op-

ponent's 3 Epee, foil and sabre

4 It must not exceed 30 metres nor be less than 20 metres 5 He can drop all ten for there is no advantage gained It will only slow him down 6 If the ball, before it has bounced twice on the floor, is returned by the striker on to the front wall above the board without touching the floor or any part of the striker's body or clothing provided the ball is not hit twice or out of court 7 Eight metre-square



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SPORTSWEEK, October 24, 1976

KNOW YOUR STARS

Kosalram

I'M not satisfied with my performances for Western Railway in this my first season in Bombay, though the fans don't seem disappointed judging from their verbal reactions I hope I will be able to give them in the seasons and competitions to come something to cheer

By then I hope to develop a greater understanding with my colleagues and also to adapt my game better to the ground conditions if they turn out to be what they were this July-August

It is not that I am unfamiliar with the Cooperage ground. But when I played for the Chief Inspectorate of Electronics (Bangalore) in the Rovers Cup in the late sixties and early seventies, the ground, if not a billiards table, at least was not heavy and sticky. It did not play so many unpredictable tricks or twists. Nor was it so taxing on my energy. In my teams and my disadvantage many of my colleagues also were not used to such a ground. But this season's experience, I am sure, will stand us in good stead next year.

I have played football in the rain. No, I cannot claim that I am a greenhorn at it. The season I played regularly for Mohun Bagan in the Calcutta League I got a taste of football in rain. But there the grounds are not exactly sticky. Rather they are slippery and not such a drain on the endurance powers of a player. Also as the matches were better spaced out I gained time for recouping and adapting myself.

Just as important, if not more, in my adaptability in Calcutta was the presence of better players with whom I had played before in Bangalore. Ulaganathan, with whom I was recruited by Mohun Bagan after our good showing in the 1973 Merdeka tournament — my only international appearance, and Kannan made me feel that I was playing in familiar company. To my good fortune I also got off to a good debut for Mohun Bagan against Kalighat on a dry ground.

But I nearly did not secure my transfer to Mohun Bagan. You know that a player has to apply for inter-state transfer by September 30. My employers, CIL, did not raise any objection to my transfer, but the Karnataka State Football Association did. It was only after Mohun Bagan filed and won a case in the Calcutta court that I was released to play for them. Five games were already over before I was finally eligible to play, and one



more went before I took the field against Kalighat.

My troubles, however, were not over. I was called to the camp to pick the team for the Merdeka, where I took ill with typhoid and had to return home in Bangalore. I missed the IFA Shield and was played in the Durand only as a substitute. It was not as though I had lost my form completely, but my coach and club had lost their confidence in me. That is why I signed for Mohun Bagan the next season but did not play for them. In September last year I sought my second inter-state transfer.

In Calcutta I found it easier to play. Around me were a lot of good players in the team which considerably reduced the load on a single individual. Besides, with so many skilful players the accent was on good positional play. This makes playing enjoyable. But the supporters inject tension into every game. They expect the team to be at least a goal up in the first ten minutes. Otherwise they get frustrated and turn their wrath on you.

This anxiety of the Calcutta supporters is unique. I do not find it in Bombay. Nor did I find it in Bangalore, where I grew up as the only one in a family of nine brothers and five sisters who took part in any sporting activity. At Coxtown School I became keen on football and athletics. My progress, I believe, was satisfactory because I represented my school at the sub-junior, junior, intermediate and senior level in succession in inter-schools tournaments.

But it was practising with Arumainayagam, Kannan, both of whom played for Mysore, Bengal and India, Lionel and Anthony Ambrose, who also preceded me to Calcutta and played for Bengal be-

fore returning to Indian Telephone Industries, Bangalore, that I learnt more about the game. I often practised alone for an hour in the evening before the others came to the ground to emulate the skills of my seniors. And all through I had striven to build up my staying powers with cross-country runs of seven to eight miles.

While at school I represented Mars Club in the "C" Division in Bangalore. Jawahar Union invited me to play a season later in 1966-67. They were in the "A" Division, and it was while playing for them that I was in the State Sports Council camp under Basha and Rathnam and also was picked for the state team for the Junior National at Bangalore in 1966.

A footballer is lucky to be in Bangalore in his formative years. For he will have the benefit of good coaching and advice from men like Basha, Rathnam and Shanmugham, though Rathnam has since left to coach in Goa. I say this from experience. I was, so to speak, so enamoured of my ability to beat rivals with a body swerve or a dribble that I began overdoing them to the detriment of my game and the team. Basha and Rathnam cured me of that failing.

Olympian Shanmugham, who was with the Mysore team at the 1970 pentagonal in Sri Lanka, taught me to be more accurate in passing and shooting, besides improving my timing in heading a ball. Yes, for a short man — I'm 24 and stand only five two — I derive immense pleasure in matching my skill with taller opponents in the air.

I have been able to win quite a proportion of these battles, largely because of the hours of practice I had put in learning to spring up higher and higher.

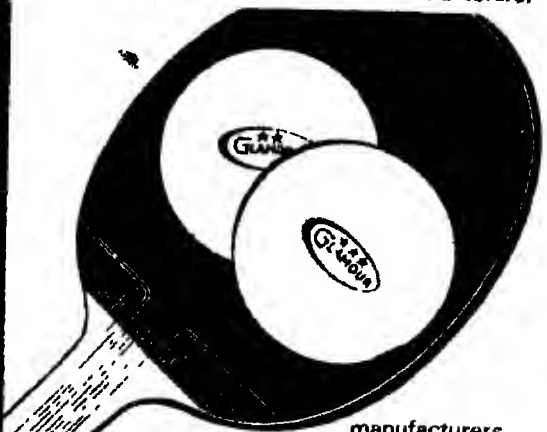
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BUZZING AROUND

by BUSYBEE

THE wife was telling me "If the board does not call Farokh Engineer, then we must"

"What do you mean, we must," I said. "Have you any idea how much it costs to bring a full-grown cricketer all the way from Lancashire to here?"

"Money, money, that is all that you think about all the time," said the wife. "With people like you around, there is no point in having campaigns to make the nation sports-minded."

I said "Let us not be hasty, the board may still invite Farokh Engineer. After all, the members of the board are not fools and they know what they are doing."

"You must be the only person who has a high opinion about the members of the board," the wife said. "Instead of wasting your time giving certificates to members of the board, go and purchase one return Au-India ticket

and send it to Farokh Engineer. Here we are gifted with the world's greatest wicketkeeper, and all you are concerned about is the price of a ticket."

I said "I am not concerned about the price of a ticket. What I think is that it is none of my business to bring some wicketkeeper here. The board is not going to share its gate money with me, and just you wait till you know the amount they are going to charge for tickets for their third-class Tests."

The wife said: "If you show a little more interest in bringing Engineer to India, they may even give you a free ticket for one of the Tests. But you want to collect free passes without doing anything."

I tried to explain to her "How do we know what form Farokh Engineer is in? None of our selectors have seen him play this year. I understand he is a little over the hill and they are holding a benefit season for him before he retires."

The wife said "Excuses, excuses, excuses."

I said "They are not excuses. You must understand that if we bring him here and he fails, people will get angry with us and say that but for us Kirmani would

have played and India would have won the second Test or the third Test or something. And you know how cricket fans are when they are angry."

The wife said. "There was a time when you used to get into fights with people arguing that there was no cricketer greater than Farokh Engineer. That was when somebody else was paying to bring him to India or send him somewhere. And now that you have to pay, you have suddenly decided that Kirmani is a better cricketer."

"I say nothing of the sort," I said. "And there is another point you have not thought of in your enthusiasm. Perhaps, Engineer may not want to come to India. There are thousands of Indians, who, once they go to England, stay there only and never come back."

"How do we know unless we invite him," said the wife. "You are talking just like how all your cricket officials talk."

"Very well," I said, "just to please you, I will buy a ticket and send him. And I hope he plays well and does not waste my hard-earned money."

"I am sure he will," said the wife. "And buy tickets for his wife and family also. It is not good manners to invite him alone."

Q HOW does one promote sport?

—Raju Mirchandani (Bombay)

A BY practising it

Q HAS anyone represented India in both hockey and cricket?

—C V Kumar (Tiruchirapalli)

A TAMIL NADU's M J Gopalan has achieved the distinction

Q WAS Albert Shaw a member of India's team for the World Cup hockey at Kuala Lumpur?

—K Ramesh (Madras 36)

A NO

Q IN which year will Bombay host the National Football Championship, for the Santosh Trophy?

—R Lonikar (Bombay 2)

A SOON after the WIFA executes its grandiose plans for a stadium at the Cooperage — probably by 2076

QUESTION

IN CHATTERBOX

Q AN outgoing ball strikes a table tennis player's racket. Who gets the point?

—Pradyut Kothare (Bombay-2)

A THE player's opponent

Q IS a Ranji Trophy match considered first class?

—M Mohan Kumar (Eluru)

A OF course

Q WHAT happens when the rival teams are level in a hockey match after the penalty strokes in a tie-breaker?

—Javeed (Airmoor, A.P.)

A ANOTHER series of five penalty-strokes will be awarded till the tie is broken

Q WHAT is your frank opinion about Bishen Singh Bedi?

—Rajiv Bhushan (Muzaffarpur-2).

A A bit outspoken, maybe, but a sportsman to the core and a great bowler

Q WHAT is the Test record of A G Kripal Singh and how many centuries did he score?

—Mohan Kumar (Madras).

A KRIPAL SINGH scored 100 not out on his debut against New Zealand at Hyderabad in 1955-56 and that was his only Test century. He scored 422 runs in 14 Tests, average 28.13, took ten wickets for 584 runs, and held four catches

Q DO you say batsman or batswoman in women's cricket?

—M Appa Rao (Visakhapatnam).

A BATSMAN has become the accepted word. Even the International Cricket Council for women's cricket has approved batsman instead of batswoman

Q CAN a professional tennis player take part in an athletics event at the Olympics?

—Ramesh Parmar (Bangalore).

A ONLY amateurs can compete in the Olympics

Moinuddowlah Gold Cup

U FOAM XI won the Moinuddowlah Gold Cup Cricket Tournament defeating Hyderabad, the holders, by eight wickets in the final.

The first day of this four-day final was the most interesting of the 17 day tournament. U Foam skipper Jaisimha, after winning the toss, asked Hyderabad XI, packed with some exciting young blood, to bat. Hyderabad after a sedate start, consolidated their position through Vijay Paul and Narsimha Rao, but once this partnership was broken, the end of the Hyderabad innings came soon. From 150 for 3 they slumped to 184 all out. Vijay Paul's 79 earned him many plaudits. Test star A. S. Prasanna was the wrecker-in-chief with five wickets.

U Foam seemed to be in a terrible plight at the end of the day's play, when they lost six wickets for only 75 runs. Abdul Bari Wahab the young Hyderabad seamer, who was largely responsible for humbling the might of the State Bank of India in the semi-finals, once again struck vital blows. He dismissed four of the six batsmen who were out that evening.

But U Foam, thanks to Ravi Kumar and D. Meher Baba, who added over a hundred for the seventh wicket, gained a first innings lead and at the end of the second day's play Hyderabad were tottering at 80 for 8 in their second innings. The third morning saw Hyderabad collapse for 108. U Foam scored the 93 runs needed for victory for the loss of two wickets.

In one semi-final Hyderabad defeated State Bank of India in a thriller. Hyderabad batted first and were all out for 173. Abid Ali, fresh from his successful season

U FOAM TRIUMPH

with the English league bowled superbly to capture 5 for 50. State off-spinner Ramanarayan bagged 4 for 42. Nagesh Hammand (44), Vijay Paul (34) and Khalid Abdul Qaiyum (29 not out) were the main contributors to the Hyderabad total. State Bank, thanks to Viswanath, took a first innings lead, being all out for 192. Abdul Wahab making his debut in the higher grade of cricket made history when he captured six wickets including a hat-trick. His hat-trick victims were Ajit Wadekar, Ambar Roy and Hanuman Singh. Indeed, a glamorous bag Hyderabad in their second innings scored 186 in 40 overs. Ramanarayan (5) and Abid Ali (1) again bagging the wickets. Needing 168 runs for victory in 40 overs, SBI were bundled out for 127. This time, state all

rounder Jyoti Prasad, exploiting a spot on the pitch, bagged 6 for 54.

Earlier, SBI proved too strong for the young Vazir Sultan Tobacco XI in the quarter-final. To SBI's first innings total of 196 the VST replied with 116. SBI scored 175 for 4 in their second innings, and VST found the task of scoring 256 runs for victory in 40 overs too stiff, finishing with 152 for 4.

In another quarter-final, U Foam defeated new entrants Syndicate Bank. Batting first U Foam scored 300. U Foam opener Sivaramkrishnan, the Tamil Nadu batsman, scored a fine 102 with 11 fouls. Syndicate Bank replied with 230. Roger Binny played beautifully to score a century.

Last year's runner up J. K. Sports Club led by Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi lost to U Foam in the semi-final. U Foam batting first scored 301. Gopal Bose dominated with a sparkling 110. Michael Dalvi supported him admirably scoring 74. J. K.'s batting failed, though Pataudi showed glimpses of his former self, scoring a polished 50.

U Foam in their second innings scored 148. J. K. started their second innings with 251 runs to win in 40 overs. The very fact that Pataudi came out to open the innings with Rajeshwar Vats showed that they have taken up the challenge. But still they lost by 71 runs.

Thus, ended this glamorous tournament in which about 20 past and present Test cricketers participated and which after a lapse of many years went through uninterrupted by rains.

—M. H. KHAN



Abdul Wahab (left) and Vijay Paul



U Foam XI winners of the Moinuddowlah Gold Cup

MISCELLANY

Maharashtra too good

MAHARASHTRA overshadowed them all in the National School Games at Dharma Shala, annexing four titles, sharing a fifth and finishing second in one more event

Punjab won two titles and were runners-up in two more. Uttar Pradesh, Bengal and Assam won one title each. Madhya Pradesh shared the kho-kho girls crown with Maharashtra.

Bengal avenged last year's defeat when they outclassed Punjab in straight games in the girls' volleyball. Punjab, who were the holders, failed to match the swift and agile Bengal girls. They were good at smashes and placements and they found chinks in the Punjab defence. The Punjab girls, on the other hand, were erratic. Bengal won the final 155, 154. Himachal Pradesh finished third.

Punjab were also unlucky in the boys' volleyball when holders Uttar Pradesh outmanoeuvred them in all departments of the game. Uttar Pradesh won 1511, 152, 159.



Joe Bugner (right) consoles Richard Dunn after he had knocked him out in the first round of their British, European and Commonwealth title bout - Wembley last week



Maharashtra Chief Minister S B Chavan, Mrs. Chavan and Miss Chandra Nayudu, daughter of the late C K. Nayudu at the opening of the C. K. Nayudu Banquet Room at the Cricket Club of India last Friday. Others in the pic are Vijay Merchant, CCI president, Rajni Patel, BPCC president and Keki Tarapor, CCI secretary

Rajasthan beat Himachal Pradesh for the third position

Maharashtra became the new boys' table tennis champions when they defeated Assam, last year's runners-up by three matches to one. In the match for the third place, Bengal defeated Madhya Pradesh 3-0.

Punjab retained the girls' basketball title beating Uttar Pradesh by 68 points to 54. The third place went to Maharashtra.

In the boys' basketball event, Maharashtra emerged as the new champion when they trounced Rajasthan by 95 points to 60. At half-time the score was 43-22. Punjab, last year's winners, finished third.

Punjab came to the fore in the boys' kabaddi when they routed Uttar Pradesh in the final by 49-18. The third place went to Bengal who beat Maharashtra by six points to three.

Maharashtra, last year's winners, beat Delhi by 17 points to 11 to win the girls' kabaddi title. Punjab were third.

Maharashtra won the boys' kho-kho defeating Madhya Pradesh by 11 points to four. Holders Gujarat finished third.

The final of the girls' kho-kho between Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra was extended to extra time but it failed to produce a result. The match was replayed but it again ended in a tie. They were then declared joint-winners. Gujarat beat Bengal to gain the third position.

— MAHESH PANDYA

THE following have been elected office-bearers of the managing committee of the Maharashtra State Cycling Association for the year 1976-77: Dinyar Jal Jamshedji president, M B Achrekar vice-president, Patanjali Sethi vice president, Gajan Ganla jr hon secretary, Sohrab R Davar jr hon secretary, C B Udawadia hon treasurer.

J world champion racing driver is in Bombay at the invitation of Goodyear India. He won world driving championship in 1969, 1971 and 1973. Stewart has won more Grand Prix driving championship points than anybody else in his racing career.

Although Jackie retired from racing in 1974, he still retains his keen interest in racing. As a consultant to Goodyear Racing Division, Jackie Stewart has made outstanding contributions for the development of today's high speed racing tyres.

Jackie Stewart is now devoting considerable time to traffic safety. He writes a regular column which devotes considerable attention to road safety. Jackie has made outstanding contributions to track safety.

THE National Lawn Tennis Championships of 1976 will be played in Bombay on the grass courts of the Bombay Gymkhana from Nov 24. This will be the first prize money nationals. The prize money totals Rs 1,50,000.

Master Plan for sport

Start at the Kindergarten

FOR Indians to shine in the world of sport, I feel that it should form just as important a role in a child's life as a school education

In the first place, it is sport that makes a child aware of competition, makes him accept his plus and minus points and improve on them, gives him a sense of fairness and freedom and makes him more national-minded. Hence I am of the opinion that sport should be introduced to a child right from the kindergarten itself

Next, I suggest that schools make it compulsory for students to take part in both outdoor and indoor games and not just for the sake of playing but to improve their standard. It is not enough for school authorities to encourage children of rich families to take part in sport (which, sad to say, is the practice observed in almost all educational institutions at present) because they can afford sports fees or buy expensive equipment and attire for the different games they may be good in

To overcome this hurdle schools should have a sports fund to cater to the needs of the poorer students who excel in certain sport but who are unable to pursue it due to lack of funds

A sports committee should be set up in every school comprising parents both from the higher and lower income groups so that there is no favouritism shown in selection. "Catch 'em young" should be our motto, which unfortunately has not been the practice all this time

Politics and prejudice have no place in the world of sport so let's sweep out the chief elements who have succeeded through their injustice to use our money to coach and encourage sportsmen and women who merely joined the crowd to travel and enjoy life at someone else's expense, and for no other reason

Special arrangements should also be made to train young athletes at camps held in different parts of the country. The coaches should be retired sportsmen. Special nourishment should be given by the government to budding athletes so that they may withstand the mental and physical strain of the stern tests on the sports field

Exchange programmes should be arranged with other countries so that our athletes can learn the different styles and techniques adopted by their counterparts in other

countries. This will also help them adapt to different environment.

One cannot expect miracles overnight but I do feel that if serious attention is paid to our sportsmen and with a little bit of luck and a lot of hard work we may strike gold and silver in Russia in 1980 and not for hockey alone!

—Ms Audrey Sonia Roberts (Mysore).

Wanted : Dedication

THE need of the hour is dedication to sports — dedication on the part of officials, sportsmen, sports-journalists and, last but not least, the educationists

Of course, the road to glory in sport is strewn with 'pitfalls'. These pitfalls, in the form of corrupt sports administrators, bad team selections and inept coaching facilities, not to mention the utter lack of encouragement, can and should be ruthlessly rooted out to lay a firm base

What we desperately need are devoted sports administrators, conscientious journalists and zealous coaches. Had A. De Mellow, S. K. Gurunathan and S. A. Raheem been in our midst today they would have been ashamed of the politics in the administration of sport, the prejudicial sports coverage and the inadequate coaching of teams selected mostly on a biased basis

The mismanagement in the football, hockey and volleyball affairs are too well known to warrant de-

tail. Our sports journalists, barring a handful of exceptions, generally do not highlight the shortcomings which beset Indian sport. As regards team selection, the gradual downfall in our standard of football, volleyball, swimming and basketball is a case in point.

The selection committee must select teams with only the interest of India at heart. There is no deny-

ing that many talented athletes in the recent past have been victims of bad selection

The University Sports Control Board, the Services Sports Control Board and such like organisations should now take up sports on a 'war-footing'. Talented youngsters should be given encouragement and economic security and coached with singular zeal on the lines of the systematic coaching being given to budding badminton players in Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia

Lastly, the Education Ministry, too, should rise to the occasion and gradually ensure that ours will be a nation of sportsmen and sports lovers. Needless to say, this is an arduous task but with proper liaison between the AICS, IOA and the Sports Cell in the Education Ministry at the Central level (and similarly down to the district levels), it will prove decisive in the years to come

—Rabia Khan (New Delhi)

Long - term planning

THE time has come to implement some long-term rather than short-term plans to have a fair number of world class athletes, gymnasts and swimmers for this purpose I would suggest

I think there should be at least two separate schools for sport in each of the states where athletics, swimming, gymnastics, football and hockey will be taught both theoretically and practically. The school should be conducted by a well organised central sports council under a separate sports ministry of the central government

Boys and girls of age 9-10 should be picked for these schools. Courses of these schools will be of eight years. A high level committee may be set up for the direction of course so that 40% or 45% of the total marks are allotted for sports

The committee should keep in mind that the qualifying certificate should be graded equivalent to higher secondary certificate. For

higher methodical training the qualifying students with distinction should be advised to seek admission to institutes like the NIS where they will be able to develop their talent further

Stipends should be given to the talented and needy students and the fees should be within the average limit

Coaches should be highly experienced so that they can spot genuine talent. Qualified coaches working under the national coaching scheme or state sports council or universities should be given preference. If necessary, they may be sent abroad for further experience. If the authority feels that the services of some foreign coaches is necessary, they should be called.

The parents should be alerted by frequent advertising (as adopted in the case of family planning) through newspapers, radio and TV, so that they can send their children to these sports schools

—Prabal Sarkar (Calcutta).

MAIL BAG

Ali & war

WE write to clarify the misunderstanding that could have taken root in the minds of the people about Muhammad Ali's refusal to go to Vietnam because of his religious beliefs.

The point to be clarified is that Islam does not stop one joining an army of a non-Muslim country but that it stops one's support to those exploiting powerless and poor people. The pages of history are ever open to prove this.

—Farooq Abbas and Samiulla Khaleel (Bangalore)

'Phoren' craze

MANY readers are appealing to you to bring in Tony Cozier, and the BBC commentators for the forthcoming twin series.

I cannot understand this hue and cry about foreign commentators. Our Indian commentators are not as bad as made out to be. We have this liking for imported stuff, now we want imported commentators too.

—Manmeet Singh Anand (New Delhi)

Congrats

CONGRATULATIONS SPORTS WEEK for having so many colour pictures of the Montreal heroes on your covers. From Nadia onwards we have never been disappointed. The pics of John Walker, Irena Szewinska and Guy Druet were fabulous. Keep it up.

—S. Nagesh (Calicut)

No tears for Steele

MANY Indian cricket fans have expressed disappointment at the non-inclusion of David Steele in the MCC team to tour India. I saw David Steele at his best last year against Australia at Lord's (his debut) and later at Headingley.

Steele is not an attractive batsman to watch. He ritually pushes his left leg forward and across (bat and pad), unless forced to play back and has practically no footwork. He would have been "easy meat" for our world-class spinners.

—Arvind G. Bhagwat (Chandigarh)

Tennis his passion

HIS middle name could well have been tennis. The game was his passion till the very end. He was one of the finest doubles players that we have ever had and there is hardly a doubles title in this country which he has not won. Among his notable achievements, was reaching the quarter-finals at Wimbledon with Sumant Misra as partner.

Those of us who had the good fortune to see Jimmy Mehta play in his salad days will always remember his crisp volleys, the sharp angled forehand, superb court craft and agility on the court. While Jimmy was a fine exponent of the doubles game he was no mean singles player and in fact had registered victories over almost every top player in the country some time or the other.

My mind goes back to the men's singles semi-finals of the South India Championship at Madras in

January of 1947. Jimmy Mehta was playing the redoubtable Chaus Mohamed. And the capacity crowd was in for a surprise. The match took nearly 2½ hours before Chaus Mohamed, who was expected to win easily, finally won at 9-7 in the fourth set in lading light. The memory of that match will live forever as will that of Jimmy Mehta.

—P. S. Seshadri (Bombay)

JIMMY MEHTA lived for tennis. Eating and sleeping were necessary but unavoidable interruptions. Tennis was his vocation as well as his avocation. It is a measure of his knowledge of the game and his handling of men and matters that he elicited the maximum enthusiasm and co-operation from the participants whether he was a competitor, captain, coach or organiser.

—Ramesh Bhat (Bombay)

Chandra's record

THE Indian ace-spinner B. S. Chandrasekhar could shatter a record now held by that great all-rounder Vinoo Mankad. Chandra requires just 10 more wickets to become the highest wicket taker in Test matches played in India. At present, Vinoo Mankad with 103 wickets for 2713 runs in 23 Tests is the highest wicket-taker in Tests played at home. Chandra has claimed 94 wickets for 2,584 runs in 21 Tests. In the 1972-73 series against England Chandra broke a record held by Vinoo Mankad to become the highest wicket taker in a Test series.

—K. R. Guruswami Rao (Bangalore)

Well done

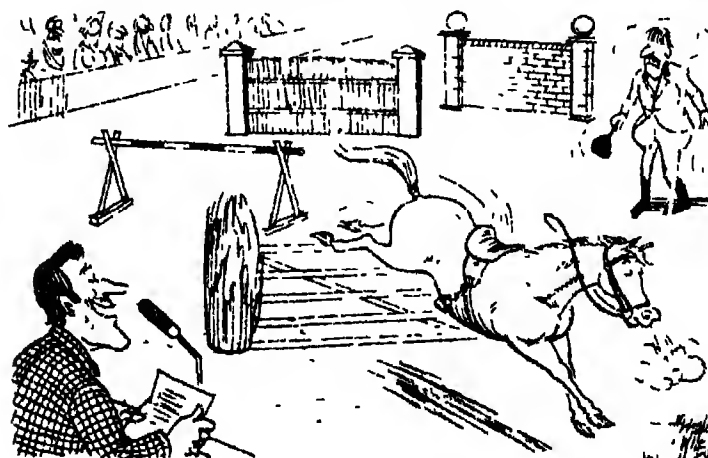
YOUR World of Cricket is improving with each issue. What a fantastic cover depicting the burning topic of intimidation! The England-West Indies series coverage is superb with eye-catching action pics.

—Jagjit Bose (Bombay 55)

Thanks

SPORTSWEEK thanks all those readers who sent greetings on its completion of eight years of publication on October 13, 1976. As it will be impossible to reply to all individually this may please be accepted as acknowledgment.—Ed.

ALL IN THE GAME!!



"That makes a perfect round for 'Dewdrop' but unfortunately Major Bagshot was unseated at the first fence."



Goculdas' dominance

tive force over the 1,000 Guineas distance at 1,600 metres.

Form amongst the older horses often went awry, though Ek Nazar (Asop Firam) finally vindicated himself by winning the 2,400 metres Idar Gold Cup in the course record time of 2 minutes, 34 seconds. Ihiza (Landigou Isis) maintained the progress she had shown in Bombay by taking the glamour event of the season the 1,800 metres Southern Command Cup, in her stride. Jaandaar (Star of Gwalior Deep Malal), who had indicated in Bangalore that he is the fastest horse in the country, confirmed that opinion when he waited away with the new 1,200 metres Sprinters' Cup, which was a gift for him and might have been specially framed for him, and the 1,400 metres Turf Club Cup.

A total of 246 horses provided 821 runners for the season averaging 7.2 runners per race. The average was adversely affected by the failure to exercise the powers which the Stewards had aimed themselves with to declare void a race with fewer than four runners at the acceptance stage. Looking back, it is evident that this proviso was meaningless as it could not obviously be used in sweep stake races (there were only two runners for the Idar Cup and three for the October Handicap) and it would have been unwise to also do so for Class One horses as a small number of such animals were in training. It is evident that there are far too many cracks in training and although to debar them would reduce the size of fields further, in the interests of quality this should be done.

The dominance of Mr and Mrs R. M. Goculdas and Mr. Mulraj D. Goculdas on Western India racing is complete. They were the leading owners for the fourth consecutive year with total winnings of Rs. 1,83,049.25. They had a total of 31 runners did not race on the

last three days of the season, and had six winners from them. Trainer B. K. Lagad, who saddles all their horses, has done them proud.

Vasant Shinde was easily the champion jockey and Abhaysingh, who was champion apprentice in addition to being champion jockey claiming an allowance, would have had a bigger tally had he not suffered a leg injury which kept him out of the saddle for some time. The race for training honours was a very close affair with S. M. Shah, who was generally expected to win, finally prevailing by a single point over D. P. Pandole, who makes Pune his happy hunting grounds.

The following are the principal statistics.

Leading Owners: Mr and Mrs R. M. Goculdas and Mr. Mulraj D. Goculdas Rs. 1,83,049.25, Sridhar of Gawhor 1,04,123.50, M. S. Ravuri V. Bhat and Yogesh M. Shah 94,171. Mr and Mrs S. C. Khetan and M. C. M. Khatke and K. C. Khasab 89,735.50, M. S. J. R. Nazir and A. M. Cooper 58,659.50, M. S. D. P. C. Kapadia and R. R. Doshi 36,179.

Leading trainers: S. M. Shah 18 wins, 17 seconds, 113 thirds, 78 runners. Pandole 17, 11, 10, 76. Aziz Mahomed 20, 7, 8, 62. Adenwalla 8, 8, 12, 58. S. S. Shah 8, 6, 4, 55. Lagad 7, 8, 1, 50. Hayat Mohd 7, 5, 10, 61.

Leading jockeys: Shinde 74, 15, 8, 74. R. Altorkar 16, 13, 12, 61. Reuben 11, 12, 13, 51. Abhaysingh 10, 6, 7, 39. I. Altorkar 11, 7, 16. Budh Singh 6, 10, 7, 52. Chumilal 6, 12, 27.

Stakes won by horses: Commanche Rs. 79,500, Tudor Moss 63,636, Jaandaar 58,013, Chashm-e-Shahi 50,650, Ek Nazar 45,302, Czaradas 42,082, Bold Bahy 39,750, Bharabi 36,678.

The total stakes won including owners' contributions to sweepstake races and premiums paid to breeders was Rs. 21,82,983.

PUNE's usefulness as a pointer to subsequent Indian Classic chances at Bombay ceased several years ago when the bite of the big money offered by Bangalore and the obvious advantages of that centre's salubrious climate attracted the bigger names amongst the three-year olds.

A similar situation obtained during the recently concluded 16 day, 115 race season as the topmost youngster Squanderer and another good type Midsummer Star remained in the sunb as did the foremost filly Imphal and Reprint.

However, with Tudor Moss highly rated and Knight at Arms and Wild Blossom well performed amongst the males and Amarantha and Bold Baby amongst the fillies available to race further light on the Classics was expected to be shed. Unfortunately, Knight at Arms died before racing and Wild Blossom remained on the canvas list.

The prime of races for the youngsters were the 1,000 metres I. D. Wadia Gold Cup which displaced the Poona City Cup and the 1,800 metres General Rayer diamante Gold Cup. Tudor Moss was beaten by Chashm-e-Shahi (Landigou Noor I Chashma) in the former race but the gotabroad Star Moss Tudor Sky colt came into his own in the longer event winning as he liked. Chashm-e-Shahi can hardly be said to be Class material and as this column rates Tudor Moss higher than the gotabroad Midsummer Star trainer S. M. Shah's word emerges as the strongest challenge to Squanderer.

Amarantha the winner at two races in Class Four and Bold Baby who had the singular distinction of being the only runner to be unbeaten in four starts, were clearly the best performed of the candidates for the filly Classics. However, although Amarantha (Padaykur Hind Pyari) has scope for improvement and Bold Baby (Hard Held Babbano's Baby) is undoubtedly fast neither yet measure up to Gwalior's pair of Imphal (Landigou Isis) and Reprint (Princ Pratleep Request). It is also unlikely that Bold Baby will be an effective



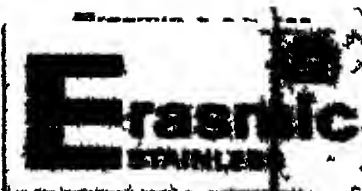
The leaders jockeys Shinde (left) and Abhaysingh, Mr. Mulraj Goculdas, Mrs. R. M. Goculdas, Mr. R. M. Goculdas with Mr. R. J. Kolah

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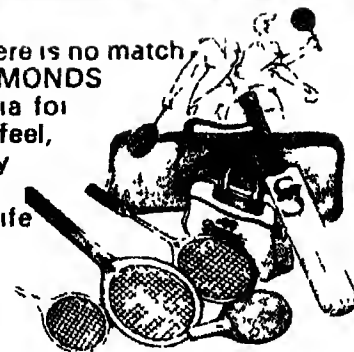
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BADMINTON

The Asian Badminton Confederation championships open in Hyderabad on October 29. A curtain-raiser by our man on the spot—p 6

CRICKET.

The first phase of the West Zone league of the Ranji Trophy championships is over. Bombay are in the lead—p 7, 8 and 9

The Australian Cricket Board is devising ways to share Test profits with players. Ray Robinson reports—p 13

BASKETBALL:

Bihar are national champions. A special report and pics from Jamshedpur—p 17, 18. ASC won the Butlerian title—p 18, 19

FOOTBALL.

The Bobby Moore biography is out. David Miller reviews it—p 22. Star of the week is Prasanna—p 23. Pele's second lesson on heading—p 25

SWIMMING.

Hosey Mistry reports on the Secunderabad nationals—p 32-33

MOTOR RACING.

Champion of champions Jackie Stewart was in Bombay last week. He has a few theories on safety—p 31

COVER: Glenn Turner, the New Zealand cricket captain and his Indian wife, Sukhinder. Transparency. Rio

SHARAD KOTNIS :

Mankad must be recalled

THE domestic cricket season is in full swing at the moment in preparation for the New Zealand tour of India. The Irami Trophy, two Duleep Trophy matches and some Ranji Trophy ties have been completed. The selectors have been busy shuttling from one place to another keeping a close watch on whatever talent these matches threw up before they finalise the team for the first Test against New Zealand in the first week of November, after the conclusion of the Duleep Trophy semi-final between West and South

Though the selectors treated the Irami Trophy match as a 'trial,' it turned out to be a farce. As a reader points out in a verse on page 37 of this issue, poor skipper Bedi was left to hold the baby. There were many in the Rest side, who have been given ample opportunities in the past and failed, and they failed once again, making the selectors' plight worse

It would have been better to have included Viswanath, Patel, Kirmani, Chandra, Prasanna and Venkat as they do not seem to have much practice this season except against weaker opposition in the South Zone Ranji Trophy league. Moreover, it does seem as if we will have to rely more or less on the same players, with a couple of exceptions, that routed New Zealand and the West Indies, early this year for the home series against New Zealand

The selectors' folly in not considering Ashok Mankad for a middle-order berth for the twin tours has been fully exposed. In five first-class matches this season he has scored more than 500 runs, including three centuries, two of them unbeaten and an unbeaten 80 in the Deodhar Trophy. On this performance, he should be a certainty in the side and if he does not get a recall, it will be the biggest surprise of the year

And though we are repeating ourselves one hopes the selectors will discharge their responsibilities with integrity, shedding parochial and non-cricketing factors. It was rather amusing to note that the two selectors assigned to watch the Duleep Trophy at Ahmedabad were nowhere around when West Zone turned the tables on East in a thrilling reversal of form

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Indonesia tops

THE spotlight will be focussed on Hyderabad for the next 12 days where the fourth Asian Badminton Confederation Championships, which promises a feast for the game's connoisseurs, open on October 29.

The team event for the Tunku Abdul Rahman Gold Cup will be played from October 29 to November 2, followed by the open events up to November 7. The top contenders will be Indonesia, Malaysia, China, Thailand and Japan and that means top class badminton is ahead.

Indonesia start as firm favourites for the ABC title with the Asian Invitation title and the Thomas Cup already in their bag. But Malaysia and China, who came back to competitive badminton during the Tehran Asiad in 1974, cannot be written off.

Malaysia were a force to reckon with a decade ago. They had won the last championships at Lucknow in 1965, trouncing Indonesia 5-0, but since then Indonesia have turned the tables winning the title in 1969 at Manila and in 1971 in Jakarta.

Going by the draw, these two countries will clash in the semi-finals itself and the current form of Lie Sumirat, Liem Swie King, Ade Chandra, Tjun Tjun points to smooth sailing for Indonesia to the final.

King is one of the world's leading singles players. The 20 year old All England finalist this year has snatched more points than any other from super-star Rudy Hartono and in fact bids fair to be Hartono's successor.

Sumirat, who will turn 26 three days after the championships, was the winner of the Asian Invitation tournament in Bangkok in March last, is well known for his whipping smashes. These two should stand head and shoulder above the rest.

The Malaysian team includes James Selvaraj and Saw Swee Leong, their No 1 and 2, respectively. Though they were beaten by Indonesia 9-0 in the Thomas Cup final, they put up a good show in the earlier rounds, particularly against Denmark. The team has been chosen with an eye on the future according to their non-playing captain Pancho Gunalan.

China and Thailand should contest the other semi-final. China, who are not members of the In-

ternational Badminton Federation on political grounds, do not participate in the Thomas Cup and their entry has been restricted to the Asian events.

Hou Chia Chang and Tang Hsien Hu of China, seeded third and fourth respectively, in the open events, came into the limelight at the Tehran Asiad when they thrashed the Indonesians. But they suffered a setback when they both lost to Sumirat in the 1975 Asians. Though both are over 35, they are amazingly fit.

Another player to watch will be Thailand's Bandid Jayien, seeded first jointly with Sumirat in the open events.

What are India's prospects? We go into the championships with

perhaps the weakest team ever. The team is without three Thomas Cuppers—Asif Parpia, Iqbal Maindargi and Dinesh Khanna. The Central India championships at Jabalpur was the selection trial to pick the team and Parpia and Khanna did not participate. Maindargi put up a bad show, losing to Subrata Banerjee.

India's hopes thus depend on Padukone Prakash, the national champion for the last five years in a row. A wide gap exists between Prakash and the next best player in the country and he has had no scope to practise against someone of his own standard in the country. Seeded sixth in the open events, Prakash is capable of rising to great heights.

—SW Correspondent



Lie Sumirat . . . joint top seed



Prakash Padukone . . . India's best bet

Bombay in the lead

THE first four matches in the West Zone league of the Ranji Trophy championships were completed in late September and early October before the more important Irani Cup and Duleep Trophy matches held the stage in preparation for the New Zealanders' visit.

Gujarat figured in three of these matches, drew all three and totalled nine points. Bombay fought back gallantly after conceding the first innings lead to Saurashtra at Surendranagar to claim eight points and then won on the first innings against Gujarat on their home ground to total 13 points from two matches.

Baroda, with a first innings victory over Gujarat and Maharashtra, with the first innings victory over Gujarat have five points each, while Saurashtra are without a point. The league will be resumed in December after the New Zealand tour.

THE opening match, Gujarat versus Baroda, ended in a draw but not before Gujarat had come close to defeat.

Never did it appear that Baroda were interested in anything more than the first innings points, which they duly gained after a period of anxiety, but Gujarat's atrocious batting in the second innings almost brought an undreamt of victory within Baroda's sights.

With one hour and the 20 mandatory overs remaining, Gujarat were 131 for seven, only 51 runs on, although there was nothing special in the Baroda attack to account for that collapse.

They were then saved by Kirit Patel, making his debut for Gujarat, and oldtimer Uday Joshi who stayed together for 68 minutes, including two mandatory overs, to add 44 runs. The tail then carried on the work to shut the doors on Baroda.

Gujarat's first innings batting was fickle but the second innings show was absolutely inconceivable. Stroke after reckless stroke brought them careening down, Jaswant Bakrania, Niranjan Mehta, Purendra Patel and debutant Narenish Amin getting out to strokes that would have been the shame of any schoolboy.

Three men reached milestones in this match. Seamers Narayan Saham, of Baroda, and Pankaj Jhaveri, of Gujarat, completed 100 wickets in the Ranji Trophy and Shaikat Dudha crossed 1,000 runs for Baroda.

Bakrania scored his third Ranji hundred, hitting 15 fours in a knock lasting 280 minutes. But it is open to question whether even he would have relished this innings. It was an odd mixture of the good and the bad, some of his shots aimed for square leg going to mid-on but there were some well-played off drives on the front foot.

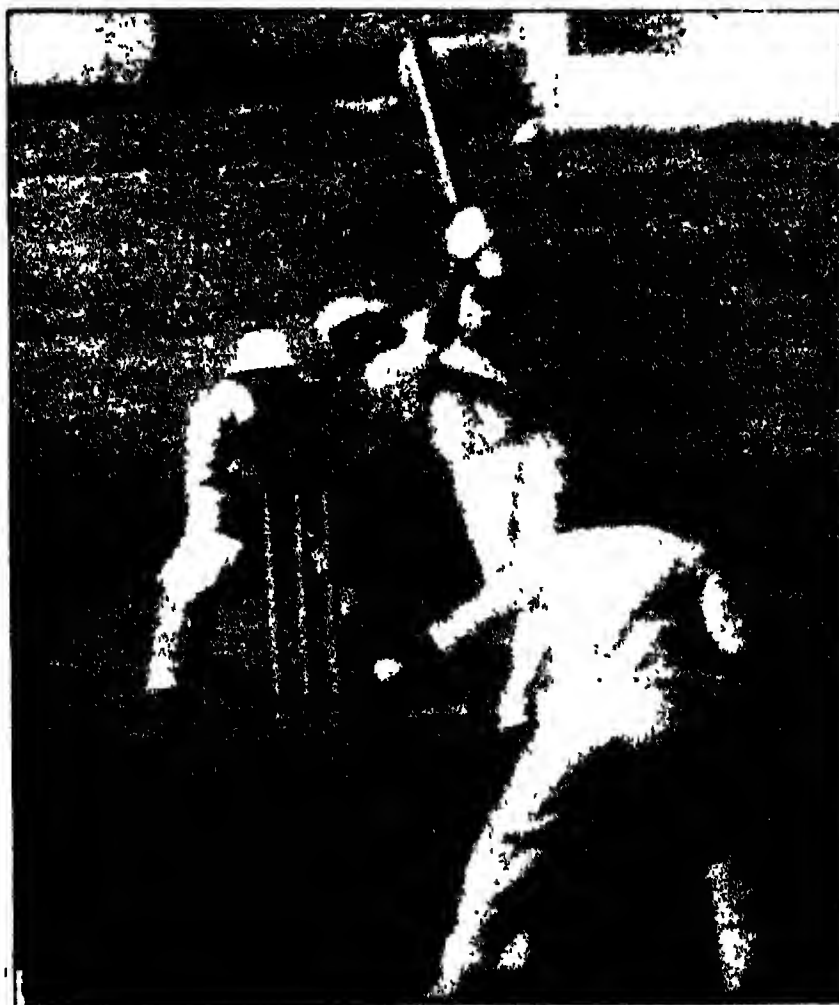
When Baroda batted they had their eyes on the first innings lead alone and towards that target they plodded wearily, losing wickets, until Cecil Williams, in a slapdash innings, and Dudha clinched them then lead.

Skipper Anshuman Gaekwad, who made 77 in 195 minutes, and Ravin Deshmukh, an opener with a sound defence, pushed and plodded. Gaekwad scored most of his

boundaries behind the wicket but perhaps he is attuning himself to his new role of an opener.

Then slow going only lost them wickets. They were five down for 131. But Williams, taking risks, and Dudha, compact and elegant, added 134 runs in 265 minutes for the sixth wicket to clinch Baroda the first innings lead.

BOMBAY were in for a shock against Saurashtra at Surendranagar. They were shot out for 79 in their first innings and Saurashtra capped a good day's work by taking the first innings lead finishing the day on 85 for 7. Saurashtra's hero was Raju Jadeja, a lanky 20 year old, who combined movement of the ball with a lot of nip off the matting wicket and left the Bombay batsmen guessing.



Ashok Mankhad, who has already scored two centuries in the championship this season, hammers Parsana of Gujarat to the fence.



**Karsan Ghavri . . . shattered
Saurashtra**

He was well supported by Naresli Parsana, who began with pace and switched to spin and in the process grabbed four wickets

Bombay hit back through Karsan Ghavri and Abdulla Ismail. At one stage they had six of the home team's men back in the pavilion for only 41 but thanks to Parmar and Sisodia Saurashtra forged ahead. But from then on the match swung Bombay's way. Saurashtra's lead was clipped to 30 and Sunil Gavaskar and Ashok Mankad saw to it that there was no repeat of the first day's humiliation. Their third wicket partnership was worth 159 runs with Mankad hitting 17 boundaries in his chanceless 124.

On the third day, Bombay were at their devastating best. The pace and sustained hostility of Ghavri and Ismail was too much for the Saurashtra batsmen and it was all over soon after lunch, the home team crumbling for 75 giving Bombay an outright win by 163 runs. Ismail struck with subtle movement, Ghavri beat the bat with sheer pace and awkward lift. The Saurashtra batsmen just had no answer and while Bombay will not look back to this match with the happiest of memories they really



**Raju Jadeja . . . rocked
Bombay**

fought like champions to turn the tables on Saurashtra

MAHARASHTRA had a few anxious moments before securing the vital first innings lead against Gujarat at Malinagar. Raju Bhalekar and Ramesh Borde, both of whom enjoyed early 'lives,' and later Anwar Shaikh and Pandurang Salgaonkar saw Maharashtra through.

Gujarat, put into bat, got off to a good start thanks to Jaswant Bakrania and Nitnajan Mehta. Then Shaikh struck, and medium-pacer Subhash Patna making his Ranji Trophy debut, chipped in and Gujarat were left reeling at 86 for 5. The recovery was led by Dhanaj Parsana, aided by Purendra Patel, and Gujarat moved to the respectability of 203.

When acting skipper Yajuvendra Singh and Kanitkar failed things looked rough for Maharashtra. Bhalekar and Borde took over and inched the score along before Shaikh and Salgaonkar struck a few lusty blows to carry Maharashtra to 251.

The last day carried shades of excitement when Gujarat declared ten minutes before tea setting Ma-

harashtra 191 for an outright win and they looked to be in business with 13 of the first over. Then the rain came and the 5,000 crowd were left wondering as to what might have been.

GUJARAT stonewalled their way to a dreary draw against Bombay. The dead wicket at the Wankhede Stadium was Gujarat's best ally and after their suspect batting had let them down in the first innings, the absence of Ghavri and Ismail from the Bombay attack in the closing stages helped them salvage three points.

Gujarat must rue their decision to send Bombay in on a placid wicket but the Mankad brothers made the most of it and only the extreme humidity came in the way of Bombay picking up the bonus point as they rattled up 326 for 4 off 92 overs. Ashok Mankad raced to one of his quickest centuries (140 minutes), his second in succession and his 13th in the Ranji Trophy. Rahul missed what would have been his first century in the championships by four runs.

Ismail gave Bombay the break through but the Gujarat middle order provided the stumbling block to an utter rout. Luck and a couple of fielding lapses helped Gujarat on a long hot afternoon and though they failed to avert the follow on on the third day they stayed off defeat quite easily on the last afternoon.



**Jaswant Bakrania . . . a
century to his credit**



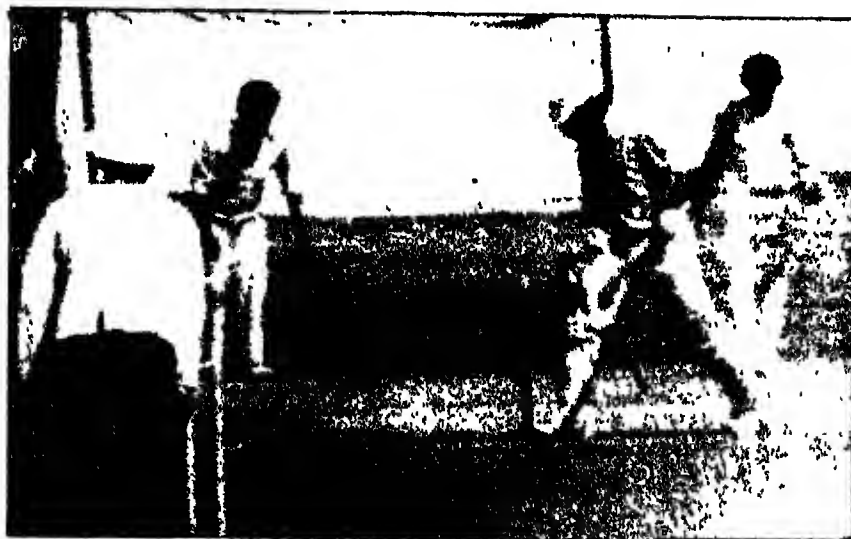
Dhiraj Parsana takes a swipe, misses and falls lbw to M. Shaikh Gujarat v Baroda



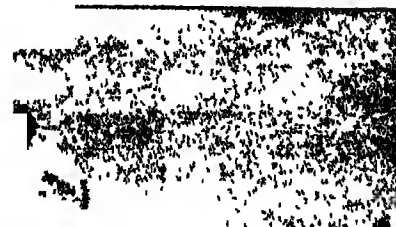
Asbok Mankad drives straight during his century against Saurashtra

RANJI HIGHLIGHTS

Pics : SHANTI SHAH



Naresh Parsana bowled by Ismail . . . Bombay v Saurashtra



Narayan Satham falls lbw to Ashok Joshi . . . Baroda v Gujarat

MISCELLANY

Gladiators return

NOSTALGIC memories will be revived at the Bombay Gymkhana ground on Sunday, November 7, 1976. Cricketers of the Golden Era — Quadrangulars and Pentangulars — will return to the scene of many of their past exploits on the occasion of a SPORTSWEEK sponsored one day match to celebrate the centenary of the Bombay Gymkhana. It will be a unique occasion when the leading cricketers of the past will have a happy reunion. There will be no entrance fee and cricket lovers will be able to witness the giants of the past in action from the maiden

Lala Amarnath, Vijay Hazare, Shute Banerjee, D. B. Deodhar, K. R. Meher Homi, R. P. Mehra, M. N. Raju, B. B. Nimbalkar, K. V. Bhandarkar, K. M. Rangnekar,

S. W. Sohoni, P. R. Umrigar, M. K. Mantri, F. S. Maka, R. J. Gharat, J. J. Kore, J. Naomai, K. K. Tarapur and B. P. Kadam have accepted SPORTSWEEK's invitation to participate. Vijay Merchant will be available, time permitting. Replies from Mushtaq Ali, C. S. Nayudu, Ghulam Ahmed, Ravi Modi and D. G. Phadkar are awaited.

On November 6, a Bombay Gymkhana XI will play the Sports Journalists Association team as part of the celebrations.

Super Gillette XI

GILLETTE, sponsors of one of the limited overs knock out tournaments for English counties ran a "Pick-a-team" competition

for readers of "The Playfair Cricket Annual," from a list of 40 leading players who have taken part in the competition, and whose names begin with the letters in the words Gillette Cup, assuming them all to be at the top of their form.

John Murray, former England and Middlesex wicketkeeper, Gordon Ross, Editor of Playfair Cricket Annual, and Ken Barrington, England Test selector, were the judges.

The team that was chosen reads as Tom Graveney (4), Ray Illingworth (8) captain, Clive Lloyd (5), Peter Loader (11), John Edrich (1), Fred Trueman (9), Glenn Turner (7), Feroz Engineer (7), Colin Cowdrey (3), Derek Underwood (10) and Mike Proctor (6) (Batting order in brackets).

Have you secured your copy of Sportsweek's WORLD OF CRICKET

(July-September 1976)

THE West Indies beat England comfortably in the five Test series. Alex Bannister describes it as "Arm chair ride to victory," while Tony Cozier explains how the West Indies rose from the ashes to triumph within six months. Plus Test by Test account by Tony Cozier with score cards, statistics and averages by B. B. Mama. And eye-catching action pics from Patrick Lagar, Sporting Pics and Central Photos.

R. T. Brittenden and Tony Lewis discuss the prospects of the New Zealand and MCC tours of India. Action pics of MCC players and portraits of the Kiwis you would like to possess.

Ray Robinson features England's over reliance on veterans. John Woodcock writes about intimidation — a major problem which remains unsolved — and Michael Melford and Bishen Bedi survey the English county season.

Ajit Wadekar and Ron Hendricks preview India's chances in the twin series. Raghunath Rau discusses the burning topic of producing fast bowlers and Sunder Rajan pleads for action and less words.

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THE ART OF CRICKET

EVERYTHING in batting leads up to stroke play which may be divided into (a) defensive shots and (b) attacking shots

Again each may be classified into two sections, (a) strokes played with the weight predominantly on the front foot, (b) strokes played with the weight predominantly on the back foot

I shall deal with these individually

Footwork

How often have we heard the saying "Jones is a great batsman — his footwork is superb" What is meant by this term footwork?

It is not a question which can be answered simply, even though instinctively a cricketer knows what is meant

I imagine most people would say good footwork implies correct footwork. Perhaps it does. But what is the use of a man going back on to his stumps in the approved fashion if he moves so slowly that he is late in completing his shot and is trapped lbw. This surely means one requires speed as well

But too much speed may bring disaster. If one jumps out to drive, gets there too soon and lofts a catch, that could be fatal

Conversely I have seen a player jump out to drive only to find himself too short, yet by speedy footwork regain his crease in time to prevent a stumping. Therefore speed can at times overcome faulty judgment

These reflections cause me to say that basically, to be good, footwork should be correct, it should be of the required speed and it must be coordinated with perfect judgment. Certainly it should never be too slow

As I mentioned earlier, one of the outstanding characteristics of great players is the apparent ease with which they play their shots. They always seem to be in the right position with plenty of time to spare

I am reminded of a man's commentary on Walter Lindrum's billiards. He said, "Lindrum never appears to play a difficult shot". The reason, of course, was that he controlled the balls so that they came to rest in a relatively easy position for the next shot.

So it is with footwork in batting. The right position is half the battle in playing any stroke

I cannot remember having seen a truly great player whose footwork was clumsy or slow. There may have been some who were

nearly great — men who relied upon forward play and whose scores were mainly compiled by driving — but I am thinking in terms of batsmen who were able to command every shot in the book and were at home to all classes of bowling

I doubt if one could truthfully say there is any single key to batsmanship, but footwork is certainly one of the keys to unlock the innermost secrets. It is to batting what a foundation is to a house. Without it, there can be no structure

When playing back defensively I believe the back lift should be as straight as conveniently possible and that in its downward path the bat should pass just outside the right pad as it comes forward to meet the ball

In this shot I always used more right hand, both in the back lift and the downward movement, than

extra in which to sight the ball helps a lot

Far too many cricketers play back on the popping crease. In other words they go back but not across, making the shot harder in every way

When in form I liked to feel in playing back defensively that I was hitting the ball either towards the bowler or mid-on rather than towards cover. It gave me a feeling of security that I was, if anything, coming from outside the line of flight and therefore guarding against a possible slip catch from the ball which went away to the off. It is so much easier to follow the ball which goes towards the leg side

Some coaches advocate that the toes shall remain parallel with the popping crease — others that they should point towards the bowler

I favour the happy medium and think it best for the toes to be

by SIR DONALD BRADMAN

in the forward defence. There is an important reason

Suppose you are playing back to an off-break pitched a couple of inches outside the off stump, and the ball, after pitching, turns across on to the middle and leg stumps. It would no longer be any use playing dead straight towards the pitch of the ball. It would be necessary to follow the direction of the ball, and to do this some power or impetus must come from the right hand which can't therefore be entirely relaxed. If a change of direction to follow the ball cannot satisfactorily be controlled by the left hand

Also it is possible to move into position for a back defensive stroke but later convert it into an attacking shot if you see fit to do so

But when purely on the defensive there should be little or no follow through. At least the left hand must be powerful enough to restrict any tendency to follow through too soon, whereby off a rising ball there might be a catch to a close in fieldman

Coinciding with the initial movement of taking the bat back, the right foot must be moved back and across in front of the stumps. The left foot is automatically brought across so that the stumps are completely protected

Advantage should be taken of the area between the batting crease and the stumps, a distance of four feet. Obviously one cannot go back the full distance, but even two feet

pointing rather towards cover or mid off

Back defensive play is vital. Master it at all costs if you have ambitions

W. G. Grace is reputed to have said "I don't like defensive strokes — you only get three off 'em"

I admire his aggressive tone, but one can't attack every ball

To be correct the full weight should be taken on the right foot, leaving the movement of the left as more of a balancing medium

The right hand slides down to the bottom of the handle to give added control though, as I said earlier, the grip is firm

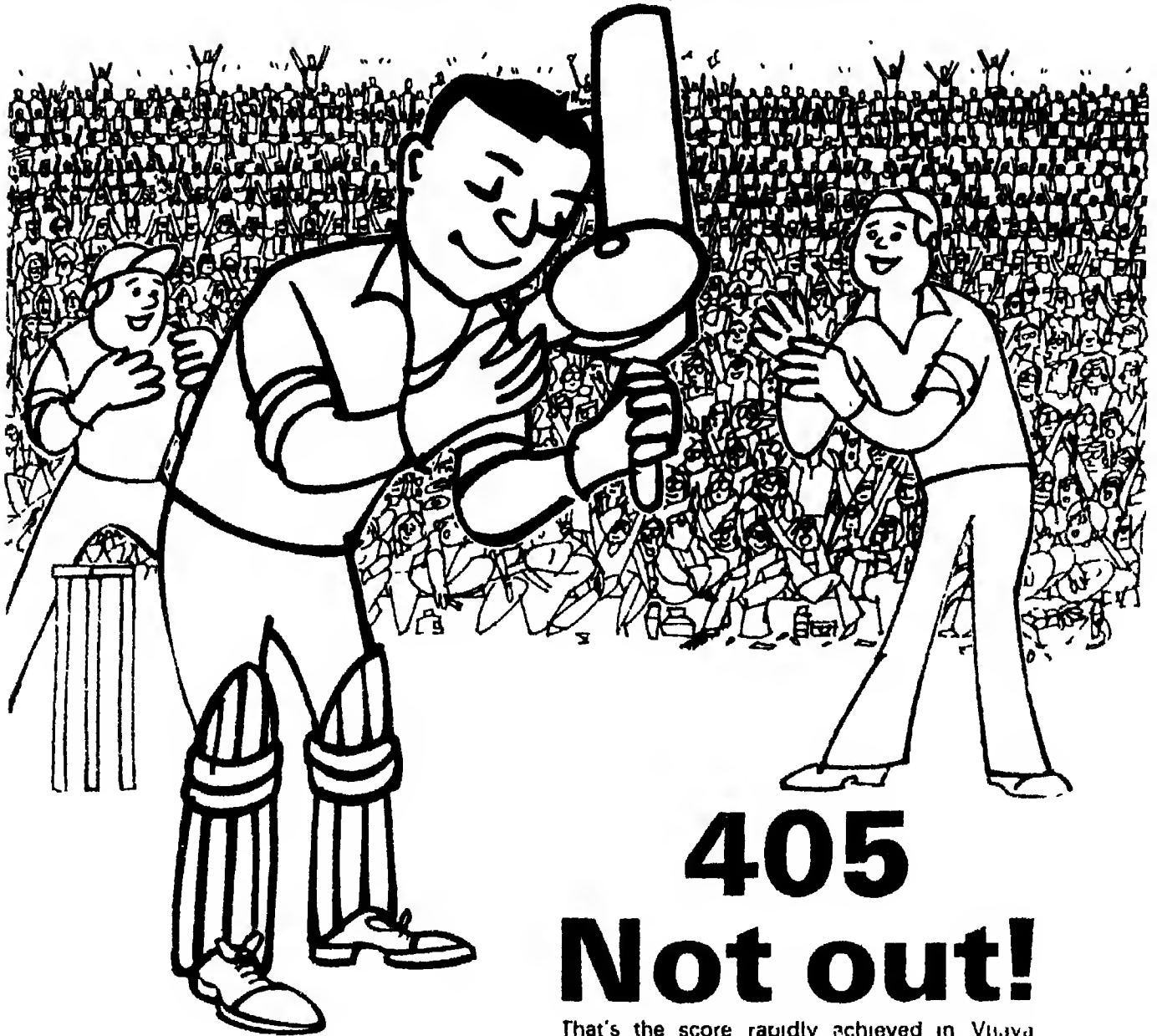
Keep the head well over the line of flight and down. Lifting the head is fatal and generally results in cocking the ball up or hitting it on the edge

It is not a bad idea to practise back and forward defence in front of a mirror to see precisely where your feet are placed and to follow the movement of your bat. So often the player thinks his bat is in the right place but to the onlooker it is wrong

Archie Jackson and Alan Farnham were renowned for practising in front of a mirror. I have seen them do it for an hour at a time. Whilst there are limitations in other directions, I certainly favour the idea for practising back and forward defensive shots because your eyes remain looking straight ahead

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(to be continued)

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From Down Under —

Profit sharing—the Aussie way

THE Australian Cricket Board's creation of a new sub-committee containing five State captains could almost cause tombstones to shudder in cemeteries where some Board of Control members of 60 years ago have rested in peace.

For several years before World War 1 the former Board's main activity was at all costs to wrest the handling of Test profits from the cricketers who attracted crowds through the turnstiles.

Board chairman Robert Parish, ex-chairman Tim Caldwell and treasurer Ray Steele form the committee with Test and Queensland captain Greg Chappell, Rodney Marsh (Western Australia), Doug Walters (New South Wales), Richie Robinson (Victoria) and the successor to Ian Chappell as South Australia's skipper, probably Ashley Woodcock.

Formation of this committee is far from implying that the 1976 Board's chiefs are conceding players much say in how Test profits will be distributed. But they will be able to state their views around the table to three of the Board's five most influential members. The full Board of 14 will deal with whatever recommendations the joint sub-committee makes.

In the wording of secretary Alan Barnes' announcement "The committee will be required to meet at least once a season to discuss all matters referred to it, including those pertinent to the welfare of the game. The Board feels that such a committee will add considerably to the smooth running of the game and promote an even closer relationship between the players and the Board."

The wording is open to interpretation as a hint that the Board aims to keep Test players' pay, bonuses, allowances and retirement credits from encroaching on sums its component States wish to devote to running the game at State and club levels, with a little financial help to schoolboys and junior groups.

All through the rises which Ian Chappell obtained for the Australian XI during his captaincy Board members insisted on the importance of preserving the ladder by which players rise from lower grades to international rank.

When the Board meeting began in Brisbane Australia's first-class cricketers as a whole believed that a proposal would be discussed for them to have former Test player Bob Cowper as liaison man on financial matters and the high fre-

quency of Test commitments. In effect, Cowper, a Bachelor of Commerce, would have been spokesman to negotiate a fairer share of the large profits which Tests bring in.

Leading players had discussed formation of a Players' Association with, among others, the Australian Council of Trade Unions' president Bob Hawke, former West Australia

by RAY ROBINSON

lian and Oxford University wicket keeper-batsman.

Creation of the new sub-committee is open to the assumption that it heads off the move to form a Players' Association (English and West Indian players each have one).

One thing clear is that Board chiefs, unlike some of their deceased predecessors, much prefer to aim for consensus rather than confrontation that would risk harm to the game in which players and administrators have such deep interest.

The three Board chiefs on the sub-committee had decisive parts in exchanges of views since 1973 with Ian Chappell as captain and with him and other senior Test players who toured England in 1975. Players expressed dissatisfaction with the meagre share allotted them from \$897,000 (Rs 10,315,000) taken at England's six-Test series in Australia two years ago.

In two years the Board lifted the basic rate from \$200 a Test to \$400, voted \$200 a Test bonus from that series and raised the bonus to \$400 from the West Indians' six Tests. The Board introduced retirement fund credits of \$200 a Test for senior players (20 Tests) and \$100 for newcomers.

Players had felt it would be better to have a well-informed ex-player such as Cowper as liaison man because stresses in negotiation had reacted adversely for Ian Chappell among some officials.

Players felt that Ian was singled out for criticism over incidents which brought little or no comment when somewhat similar happenings involving other players. No doubt such frictions were among off-field pressures mentioned by Chappell among his reasons for quitting Test captaincy after 30 Tests in four and a half years, February 1971 to September 1975.

A side effect from the sub-committee could benefit cricket, too. Instead of hieratic pronouncements about the need for more balls an hour, but fewer bouncers — which have got nowhere — Board chiefs will now be able to use personal touch in seeking captains' accord. In time, more about the way the sub-committee was created will probably seep out to curious cricket followers.

In announcing that Philip Ridings has been appointed chairman of the Test selectors the Board secretary said it was the first time a selection chairman had been appointed.

Unaware of reasons for the appointment, cricket fans were baffled by it in a season when, after three Tests against visiting Pakistan, an Australian team will be chosen to tour England. The other two selectors, Neil Harvey (79 Tests) and Sam Loxton (12 Tests) both played in English conditions, Loxton in 1948 and Harvey on four tours to 1961.

Though Ridings, 58, is the oldest Harvey, 48, in the senior Test selector in service, since New South Wales nominated him to join Sir Donald Bradman (South Australia) and Jack Ryder (Victoria) in 1967. Loxton, now 55, succeeded Ryder in 1970.

Ridings became South Australia's nominee when Bradman at 63 gave up selectorship in 1971. Phil was a reliable all-rounder who scored 5650 runs and took 61 wickets as a medium pacer in 102 first-class games. He followed Sir Donald as SA skipper and president. He was vice-captain on a tour of New Zealand in 1959-60.

SPORTING SAM by Reg Wootton





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INTIKHAB ALAM

by A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

TO Intikhab Alam "Cricket is a way of life. You learn so much. It is a great teacher and it makes you a real man. It taught me patience, understanding and determination." So it is no surprise that "Inti," who did not figure in the team for the first Test against New Zealand at Lahore recently, came in at the very last minute, destroyed the Kiwi batting, and was largely instrumental in Pakistan winning the Test. Patience and determination of a high order indeed.

He is an all-rounder, basically a bowler who became a Test hero overnight when in his debut he hit Colin McDonald's off stump with his first ball in Test cricket. That was against the Australians in 1959. From that time onwards he has progressed as a good thinker with the ball and is easily the best of his type in the game today.

Of all the bowling arts leg spinning is the most difficult as the ball has to come out of the back of the hand and this involves a bigger element of risk. Besides leg spinners have got to have big hearts and Intikhab has that and more. Things have not always gone well for him but there are few more likeable fellows in international cricket.

His leg spinning repertoire includes all the accepted deliveries and a few more. His nominal leg spinner drifts in towards the batsman, he bowls a good googly, and a disguised one giving him an extra string to his bow, a quicker round-arm as a surprise and a flapper that has toppled the best.

As a batsman he has never inspired any real confidence but when in the right mood he is one of the hardest hitters in the game with a penchant for the lofted drive. Intikhab is one of that rare breed of all-rounders — a bowler who can bat. His figures in Test cricket testify to that, 1,500 runs at an average of around 20 and over 100 wickets.

When Intikhab, after leading Pakistan in 17 Tests, was dethroned from his seat of responsibility at the eve of the Prudential World Cup in England, a hue and cry was raised in the national Press and by his innumerable supporters



all over the country. Whether his exclusion was worth such a massive tantrum, is a matter which should better be dropped at the moment, but it is a fact that Intikhab's valiability as a player has seldom been in doubt.

As captain he had helped the Pakistan team to emerge as a potential world class side. But, by some nasty quirk of fate, the players never clicked as a team and during the last eleven years or so, only one Test victory has been achieved.

How much Intikhab is to blame for such a luckless run, is debatable, but a specialist bowler seldom makes a good captain. Like most other such skippers, Intikhab could never curb the tendency of keeping one end mostly to himself.

It was usual for him to assume the role of a stock bowler, but he usually forgot that wrist spinners should primarily be attackers. However, he never wilted under pressure, though in the meantime the initiative was, very often, passed on to the other side.

Intikhab's all-round talents really flourished when Moin Khan was appointed to lead Pakistan in the 1972-73 home series against England. Freed from the cares of captaincy, he was in his best batting form as his whirlwind 138 at Hyderabad revealed and he bagged 15 wickets in the three Test matches.

What he needed was a bit of restrained use as a bowler, and he produced instant wonders. This goes to show how much a part of Pakistan cricket should be the eternally likeable and cheerful 'Inti'.

Cricketers of the week—22

BIRTHS

October 25: H. J. Keith (S.A.) 1927, P. J. Loader (Eng.) 1929, R. Swetman (Eng.) 1933, A. C. Smith (Eng.) 1936, R. G. Archer (Aus.) 1933

October 26: H. W. Lee (Eng.) 1890

October 27: J. B. Plimsoll (S.A.) 1917, P. G. Joshi (Ind.) 1926, D. K. Gaekwad (Ind.) 1928

October 28: M. M. Naidu (Ind.) 1911, R. N. Harvey (Aus.) 1928, P. R. Carlstein (S.A.) 1938

October 29: Wilfred Rhodes (Eng.) 1877, D. Brookes (Eng.) 1915, B. W. Yuile (N.Z.) 1941

October 30: J. L. Hopwood (Eng.) 1903, I. P. B. Smith (Eng.) 1908, P. D. Blair (W.I.) 1943

DEATHS

October 24: J. B. Iveyson (Aus.) 1973

October 25: E. G. Arnold (Eng.) 1942

October 27: N. E. Haig (Eng.) 1966

October 28: A. Waddington (Eng.) 1959

October 29: V. Y. Richardson (Aus.) 1969

—K. ISWARA DUTT

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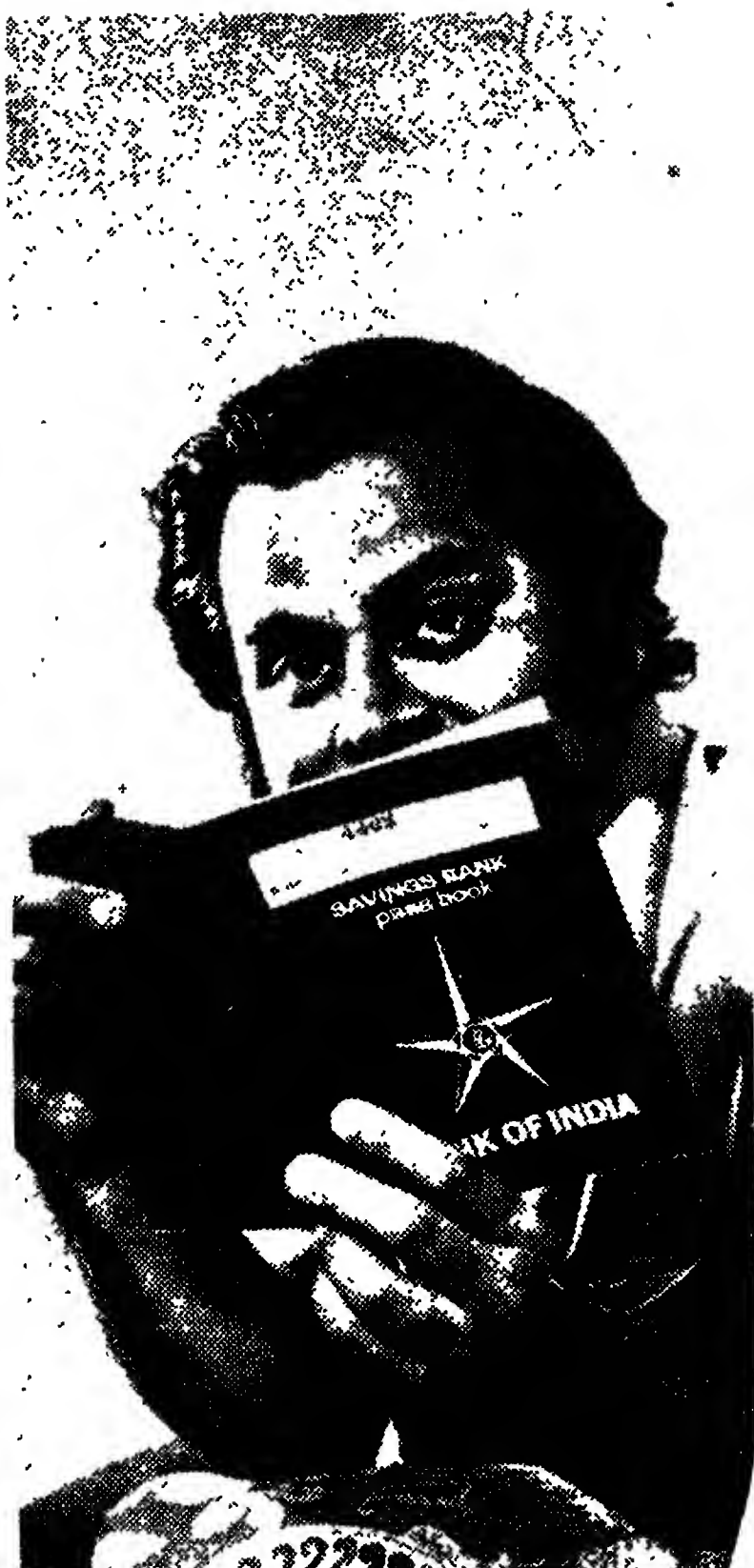
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BASKETBALL

HOSTS Bihar retained the title, when they defeated Rajasthan 81-70, in the final of the second interzonal basketball championship at Jamshedpur recently.

The championship was conducted on a league cum knockout basis. Teams from Bihar, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala and Delhi participated. Punjab and West Bengal, winners and runners-up of north and east zones respectively, cried off at the last minute.

This caused a lot of trouble to the organisers who did a really good job of conducting the championship. The Basketball Federation of India must take steps right now if they want to prevent this championship from turning into an exercise in futility.

The teams were divided into two pools of three teams each. Pool 'A' consisted of Bihar, Karnataka and Maharashtra while Rajasthan, Kerala and Delhi constituted pool 'B'. The winners of each pool played the runners-up of the other pool in the two semi-finals.

Bihar, who otherwise had an easy time in their pool, faced a stiff challenge from a youthful Maharashtra team in their league encounter. Down 54-44 at the end of the first half, Maharashtra fought back gallantly to narrow down the lead at 64-62. But gigantic S. K. Panda proved a thorn in their flesh. He scored 14 points and Kamalakar Rao contributed 25 to help Bihar finally win at 93-77.

In another crucial match of the pool, Karnataka surprised a highly-rated Maharashtra 64-73 after leading 43-36 at the breather. A poor start proved fatal for Maharashtra and Karnataka hung on to the initial 11-0 lead to emerge victorious. Skipper S. A. Ranga Dev played splendidly for Karnataka, scoring 39 points. Young Abdul Hamid scored 27 points for Maharashtra. Earlier, in the inaugural match of the tournament, Bihar had beaten Karnataka by 105 points to 74.

Pool 'B' was comparatively weaker. Rajasthan experienced no difficulty in disposing off, first Kerala 96-68 and later Delhi 90-69, to remain unbeaten in the pool. Kerala also beat Delhi 95-68 to become the other team from the pool to qualify for the semi-final.

In the first semi-final, Rajasthan took on Karnataka. The match, expected to be close, petered out to be a tame affair, with Rajasthan holding the whiphand right from the start. Karnataka could do nothing to stop veteran Khushi Ram. He scored 22 points in the

Bihar are champs

first half to give Rajasthan a 46-26 points lead.

A second half rally by Karnataka when they made the score board read 68-58 was of no avail. Rajasthan won 78-60. Khushi Ram scored 38 points for Rajasthan. Ranga Dev, in spite of having a bad match, managed to score 24 points for Karnataka.

In the other semi-final, Bihar crushed Kerala 85-51, after leading 49-22 at the half time. S. K. Panda scored all the first 21 points for Bihar who rested all their regulars and played the substitutes for the major part of the match.

The final match between Rajasthan and Bihar dished out a good fare of exciting and fast basketball. The Bihar players provided a capacity home crowd with a lot of opportunity to shout themselves hoarse, with a great display of game skill and court-craft. Rajasthan, though fighting against heavy odds, gave a commendable performance.

During the match, the lead changed hands frequently. Bihar



Bihar's captain R. C. Dutt receives the shield from Bihar Education Minister R. R. Singh.



The Bihar team, the winners.

ASC win comfortably

FOR ex-student sportsmen of Harcourt Butler School, Dasera holidays in Delhi means a get-together and they take this opportunity to arrange an all India basketball tournament named Butlerian Basketball Tournament. It was no different this year.

As usual funds were raised by these ex-students with the school providing lodging facilities and of course the courts. Unfortunately, however, the school authorities have so far not realised the need for cement courts.

Though the holders, Border Security Force and runners up Western Railway did not take part, there was talent and skill enough in the rest of the teams to make the tournament an interesting one.

The fittest and perhaps the fastest of the teams, Army Service Corps, as expected won the men's title with a comfortably looking 89-66 win over Shri Ram Rayons, Kota whose former international, Khushi Ram was the top scorer with 41 points.

Much of course had been expected of this final but Rayons after a somewhat flourishing start

fell off mainly because of the res-tants placed on them allrounder V P Natula who collected four personal fouls even before the match was half way through.

ASC generally had their way in almost all the matches with Attar Singh doing the bulk of the work in feeding and he tall Nathu Singh collecting most of the points. But Rayons had a tough way up to the finals with both INS India and Air Force running them close.

Rayons in fact had to meet INS India twice once in the group match in which INS India gave them many a scare. And then when

BUTLERIAN BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

INS India made the semi final grade, their path was blocked by Rayons and this time the Kota lads won more comfortably than the score of 87-78 suggests.

In the women's section poor supervision unsettled some well known combinations. Calcutta's Suffee Commercial College Club with Jennifer Paes in their ranks, being the worst sufferers. They lost to local favourites Indraprastha College who went on to win the final, defeating Hoopsters Club convincingly. It was in fact a return match for the two teams, Hoopsters having beaten IP in the group tie. But then IP were without some of their better known players, in particular Poonam Sahaiwal who was later recalled from the coaching camp in Patiala for the final stages.

Supervision in basketball in the capital which has so many top rate referees is rather indifferent. Delhi perhaps has the maximum number of basketball tournaments and it is in the interests of the BFI to examine some of these gentlemen whom they have cleared earlier.

SW Correspondent

from p 17

led 119 through baskets by Panda, Ganapathy and Kamalakar. Then Rajasthan overtook them at 1415 with lovely shots by Khushi Ram. Kamalakar Rao converted some beautiful long range shots and Bihar had a slender 34-30 lead at the end of the first half.

In the second half Hanuman Singh also had to quit to join skipper Natula on the side line. Both had suffered ankle injuries. Their absence seemed to hamper the game of Rajasthan considerably. Pratap Singh acquitted himself creditably by keeping Panda in check.

But mercurial Kamalakar Rao was absolutely unstoppable. He remained the top scorer for Bihar with 32 points and Panda made 24 points for Rajasthan. Khushi Ram proved that he was still good with consistently good performances throughout the championship. He was the top scorer of the match with 35 points to his credit.

Earlier in the day, in an all south clash, Karnataka had subdued Kerala 70-56 to earn the third place.

—IAVFD AKUTAR



Pratap Singh of Rajasthan and Harbhajan Singh of Bihar in an aerial duel



The semi-final of the Butlerian Tournament . . . Khushi Ram of Shri Ram Rayons and Anil Kumar of INS India leap high

Anil Kumar and Gokul Chand of CRPF in a keen tussle in the quarter-final tie

Pics: GITARAM



Yadav of INS India about to score against S. R. Rayons



Women's semi-final between Suffec College, Calcutta and Indraprastha College, Delhi



Sunil Gavaskar, Bombay's captain, is introduced to Deputy Education Minister Arvind Netam at the Ferozsha Kotla ground, New Delhi



It's the turn of Rest of India introduced to Mr. Netam before the match

IR TRO



Dilip Vengsarkar clouts on over mid-wicket

Ramnath Parkar sweeps in his inimitable style



Bishen Singh Bedi to be intro-
t of the Irani Trophy match

IRANI TROPHY

Yajuvendra Singh cuts
powerfully during his innings
of 61 for Rest ▶



A king with no friends



SUPERSTAR, flawless gladiator, national idol — yet an enigma, a loner, a king without a friend. That was — indeed is — Bobby Moore, on his own illuminating, fascinating admission.

With a frankness which penetrates every controversy, every pinnacle, with the same detached analysis that made him a legendary defender, he bravely concedes: "Apart from my wife Tina, there is no one I would call a really close friend." But read on.

"Alf Ramsey didn't hold a candle to Ron Greenwood in knowledge of the game not in the same street. No man ever saw so much in the game as Greenwood, an encyclopedia, brilliant with international players." But

"Greenwood could not motivate people. With the right management the club (West Ham) would

only in post-maximum wage English soccer to Bobby Charlton's.

An ordinary boy "from an ordinary home, with a few ordinary factories in the back garden," he grew from sudden emergence at 21 in the 1962 World Cup to become the world's most clinical, effective defender, reaching an all time zenith against Brazil in Mexico (post-Bogota) eight years later.

There is the revealing, moving tribute to mentor, inspiration and boyhood idol Malcolm Allison, who told him on top of a London bus: "Keep forever asking yourself 'If I get the ball now, who will I give it to?'"

"I've carried that with me into the middle of every great stadium.

Ambitious, acquisitive — there are passages which read a bit like

An enigma, a loner, a legendary defender and a flawless gladiator

have dominated the English game for a period, the way Leeds did."

In quite the best narrative ever to emerge from inside that private stable of professional football, which lives often uneasily behind its jazz tangero stall, biographer Jeff Powell has collaborated with England's former captain to produce a prized collector's piece.

Of course, the Bogota bracelet "whodunnit" is there — the pre-1970 World Cup frame-up in Colombia, through which our hero strode, not a hair not a word out of place, with all the calm assurance of an astronaut.

Of course, he was innocent. I was there in the maelstrom of the Hotel Tequendama and its Green Fire emerald boutique.

An open and shut case. Persistently ignored by the police was the fact that of five sets of fingerprints on the glass case from which the bracelet was allegedly removed, none was Moore's.

But Bobby Moore, the Authorised Biography is far more than the definitive account of a commonplace piece of South American sharp practice.

It is a compulsive glimpse into a web of relationships with managers and players with whom Moore built a worldwide image second

Nicholas Parsons introducing "Sale of the Century" — and with the almost obligatory professional's reaction a concerning even objective Press criticism. Moore and his biographer have nevertheless been startlingly objective.

He is worried about "not being loved like Henry Cooper." He knows that he "only responds as a leader to other big personalities" — ie with England, not so with West Ham.

It's all there. The meticulous star who folded his own training gear, cleaned his own boots, went training at 6 am on Mediterranean holidays.

The fact that Ramsey did want wingers in 1966 but was crucified for discarding them.

That Moore resisted handling Yugoslavia's winning European Championship semi-final goal in 1968 — "not my way."

That Peter Bonetti's goalkeeping errors, not Ramsey's substitution errors, cost 'England's best ever squad' the 1970 World Cup.

That Ramsey inexplicably froze mentally as Moore, on the substitute's bench, repeatedly and in vain urged him to send out Kevin Hector as substitute against Poland in 1973 — until 90 seconds from the end.

—DAVID MILLER

KNOW YOUR STARS.

Prasannan

I HAVE always been a half back. This I say because many people put to me what lawyers would call leading questions that my style of play suggests influence of early days as a forward. No, I have not played in the forward line. But I must confess that I have an insatiable urge to hit the ball sweetly and bulge the net.

From the beginning I have craved to possess the ball, and this craving I could satisfy most as a midfield player. And that more as an aggressive half back than a defensive half back. Yes, my penchant for attack is more noticeable.

I like to play on the heels of my forwards, at times move ahead of them and surprise the opposition goalkeeper with a snap shot. And the percentage of success has been good enough to persuade me that I am doing the right thing.

But I cannot hide the fact that my defensive work does not compare favourably. A contributory factor has been, if I may say so, my good fortune to have from my schooldays beside me a half-back strong and firm in tackles and covering. When I captained the Calicut Schools to victory over Cannanore Schools in the final of the Inter-District Schools Tournament I had Usman Koya to ease my worries about defence.

At Dempo Sports Club, whom Usman and I joined in 1970, I had Ramesh Redcar, besides Usman to cover up as a stopper. Now, in Central Bank, Surendra John and Sunil William ably plug the gaps when I go forward.

However, as I have said it is my good fortune to have had such fine defensive half backs beside me. But any thought of another player balancing my inclination to attack was far from my mind when I started playing with a tennis ball during the lunch recess at St Joseph's School and Model School at Calicut. While at St Joseph's I often played in tennis ball matches against neighbouring St Anthony's.

It was soon after my cousin, Goverdhan, the tall Artillery Centre and Services inside-forward and stopper, gave me a pair of boots with hard toes and stockings that I began to play with a full size football. My constant companion at morning practice sessions in those days was my neighbour and schoolmate, Sudhir, who won his India cap before me and won it more often — I played for India in the 1973 Merdeka and scored a vital goal or two. Incidentally Sudhir often used to play as a



forward, though goalkeeping was his best position even in those days.

Together Sudhir and I joined Excellent Club while still at school in 1965 and turned out for the junior and senior teams of the club in tournaments within and outside Kerala. While we were with this club that we also represented Calicut Schools. This school boy honour is something I remember with gratitude because we were put for a month under Simon Sunderaj, the former Olympian outside-left who also coached the Kerala team for the 1955 Junior National at Cuttack of which I was a member. I was also chosen for the next Junior National at Bangalore. It was Simon Sunderaj who first taught me the finer points about positional and skilful play.

Sudhir and I switched to Young Gems and then senior team, Young Challengers in 1966. I stayed with the club till 1969, though I played for a year in 1968 even before leaving school for Posts and Telegraphs. I am not one to go entirely by book. I prefer to learn through experience on the field. But I must acknowledge my debt to Young Challengers' C. P. Usman and captain Bhasi Malapalam.

I guess I must have improved with Young Challengers. For, besides being chosen to represent Kerala in the Santosh Trophy at Bangalore (1968) and Nowgong (1969) I was also sought by clubs from Bombay and Goa. Both Lata Sports Club and Dempo perhaps liked what they saw of me in the 1969 Nehru Trophy at Pnakkulam. Young Challengers, whom I was captaining, got the better of Sesa Goa to reach the quarter-final, where we lost to Mohun Bagan by the odd goal in five.

Tata were the first to approach me. But their letter was delayed. In the meantime Balaguru, the former Services centre-back who was with Dempo, literally took me away. I had to cool my heels for six months because of the interstate transfer regulations.

The wait, however, was worthwhile. For the 1970-71 season I played for Dempo I reckon as my best to date. As I have already told you I had the reassuring presence of Ramesh Redcar and Usman Koya. And coach Rathnam taught me to speed up my movements and release of the ball. I experienced the joy that you derive from doing something to your satisfaction.

Somehow I have never been able to give of my best in the National since not have I really given an encore of my performances. For Dempo I don't know if I'm right, but I have felt that after moving into position for a ball I haven't been given it and have been left high and dry.

Hence I have not been happy with my displays for Maharashtra in the Nationals from 1973 to date, though I hope that I would be able to make amends if chosen again.

But at Central Bank, whom I joined in 1972, I have other vital things going for me. Like team spirit and good coaching under Kalyan Mitra. Both have much to do with the willingness of the forwards to come back and make our defence more compact.

Our forwards also make it easier for me to hit passes by their positioning. We are still developing and with stronger reserves should be more consistent and a match to any team. I hope that will be soon and I will have a part to play in the team's successes.

Text, Sharp-Shooter Pic, Rio

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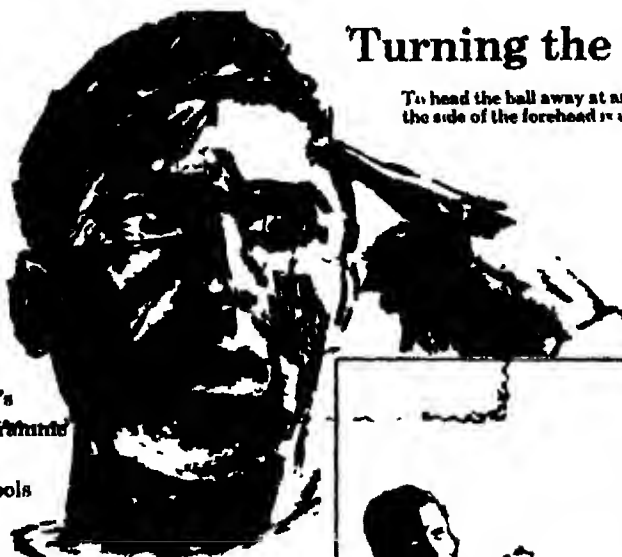
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Turning the Ball

To head the ball away at an angle, the side of the forehead is used



The body is turned so that the shoulder points at the approaching ball, then swung forward with a twisting sideways motion as the side of the forehead meets the ball

Outjumping Opponents



It is not always the tallest player who wins heading duels: correct timing of the jump—this means an early take-off—and a strong jack-knife action while airborne are essential.

How much do you know?

by HOSEY MISTRY

- 1 When a cricket umpire means when a) he touches a raised knee with his hand, and b) raises an index finger above his head?
- 2 What is the duration of a kho-kho match?
- 3 What is the width of a badminton court?
- 4 What is the points range for scoring in gymnastics?

- 5 What are the standard dimensions of the football field?
- 6 In ball badminton, if the ball drops on any line during service, is it a valid service?
- 7 In the two hands snatch lift can the weight lifter take his own time to recover from a 'split' or a 'squat' position?

ANSWERS

- 1 He is signalling a leg bye (a) and giving a batsman out (b) 2

A match consists of two innings. An innings consists of chasing and running turns of seven minutes each 3 Twenty feet (6.10 m) for doubles and 17 ft (5.18 m) for singles 4 Zero to ten with deductions of whole points, half points and 1, 10 of a point 5 Its length being not more than 120 metres nor less than 90 metres, and its breadth not more than 90 metres nor less than 45 metres 6 No 7 Yes

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MOHAMMED HASSAN, the grand old man of Hyderabad, has done it again! After his recent victory in the Bhilwara Trophy Tournament at Madras, he came straight to Bombay, he saw and he conquered.

With the munificent patronage of M/s Kamat and Sons of Accumax Engineering who gave Rs 12,000 for the prize fund, the Bombay Chess Association organised the biggest ever All India Open Chess Tournament in which 320 players, including about 100 from all over the country competed. The 15 round play was staged at the Indian Gymkhana, Malunga.

The tournament was inaugurated by Mr Rajni Patel who announced a donation of Rs 20,000 for the Chess Lovers' Association (of which he will be the president) formed by Mr Dinkar Kamat and Rs 5000 for the Gurgaon Chess Circle.

Throughout the tournament Mohamed Hassan remained in the lead. National Champion R Ravi Sekhar of Madras and Arun Vaidya of Bombay once caught up with him, but again he went ahead of them finally, conceding only 5

draws, Mohamed Hassan collected 12½ points and though, with a lucky win against A K Ghosh of West Bengal in the last round, Ravi Sekhar finished equal in points, Hassan edged him out on Median Sokoloff count.

Final ranking with points

Mohamed Hassan (AP) 12½, R Ravi Sekhar (TN) 12½, Arun Vaidya (Maha) 11½, Vijay Adhikar (Maha) 11½, Praveen Thipsey, (Maha), N Ghalib (AP), S Hasan (Maha), A Chatterjee (Delhi), S Nasir Ali (UP), N Neelakantan (Maha), R B Sapre (Maha) all 11, Sajan Joshi, M T. Bahur, S G Shaligram (Maha), T N Parameswaran (TN), A K Ghosh (WB), V P Avari (Gui), S V Natarajan (TN), R Sridharan (Karn), R Bahadur (MP) all 10½.

Ties were split up by Median Sokoloff count, that is the sum of the points of one's 9 opponents excluding the best 3 and lowest 3 and by full Sokoloff if the tie persisted.

Cash prizes in the order of ranking Rs 5000, Rs 2500, Rs 1500, Rs 1000, Rs 500, Nos 5 to 10 Rs 150 each, Nos 11 to 15 Rs 100 each, Nos 16 to 20 Rs 50 each.

The brilliancy prizes were claimed by N Ghalib for his win against N Neelakantan, S V Natarajan for his win against Rohini Khadilkar and by Rohini Khadilkar for her win against seasoned Gaurang Mehta. Rohini, who is just 13, created two other sensations by defeating Maharashtra Champion Abdul Jabbar and West Bengal Champion A K Ghosh.

Here is one of Md Hassan's crisp wins:

CARO KANN DEFENCE

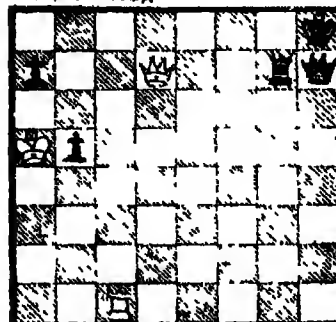
White: Abhay Thipsey
Black: Md Hassan

1 PK4, PQB3 2 P04 P04 3 NOB2, PxP 4 NxP, BB4 5 NN3, BN3 6. PKR4, PKR3 7 NB3, NQ2 8 PR5, BR2 9 BQ3, BxB 10 QxB, PK3 11 BQ2, KNB3 12 QK2, QB2 13 000, 000 14 NK5 NN3 15 BR5, RQ4 16 PQN4??, KxB 17 PxR, N(N)Q4 18 QQ3, QxP 19 KN2, BN5! 20 NK7, NB6! 21 NxN, QR6ch 22 KN1, BxN 23 NB4, QN5ch 24 KB1, PQN4 25 NQ6ch, KQ2 26 QKRB1, KxN 27 QN3ch, KK2 28 QB7ch, NQ2 29 PKN3, BN7ch 30 KQ1 QxPch 31 KK2, OK5ch 32 KQ2, RQ1 White resigns.

White's 16th move, provoking the exchange sacrifice, is suicidal. In the National Championship at Patna last year the game Ravi Sekhar-Md Hassan went 16 BxN PxR 17 PQB4, RK4 18 KN1, BQ3 19 PB4, RK1 20 NK4, NxN 21 QxN, QK2 22 RR3 PB3 and a draw was agreed.

END GAME

By N Heg



White: Kd5, Qd7, Rc1
Black: Kh8, Qh7, Rg7, P's a7, b5

White to play and win

RECORD BOOK

Wilt week

THE first week in March should be called "Wilt Week" in American basketball to commemorate some remarkable records achieved by that ace of points shooters — Wilt or Norman Chamberlain.

A Negro from Kansas, he stood 7ft 2ins in his bare "spring-heeled" feet and his long, slim arms could pop the ball in the basket almost without him tip-toeing. It was his height which earned him the nickname of "Wilt the Stilt."

After a great career as a college basketball player, he joined the pro ranks of the Philadelphia Warriors. In March 1960, at the end of his first season in the National Basketball League he had set a

new record of 2,707 points in a 72 games season.

Twelve months later, on March 5, 1961, in a match for the Warriors against Los Angeles, Wilt scored 32 points, to take his season's total to 2,734 — another record. Actually, he topped 3,000 before the season ended, and became the first man to achieve such a scoring figure. The following season Wilt scored an astonishing 4,029 points.

Life in the professional game was not easy for Wilt Chamberlain. He was always a moody young man and did not take kindly to the harsh treatment he received from opponents. But since he was considered "the greatest" he became a marked man.

He was also said to be the high-

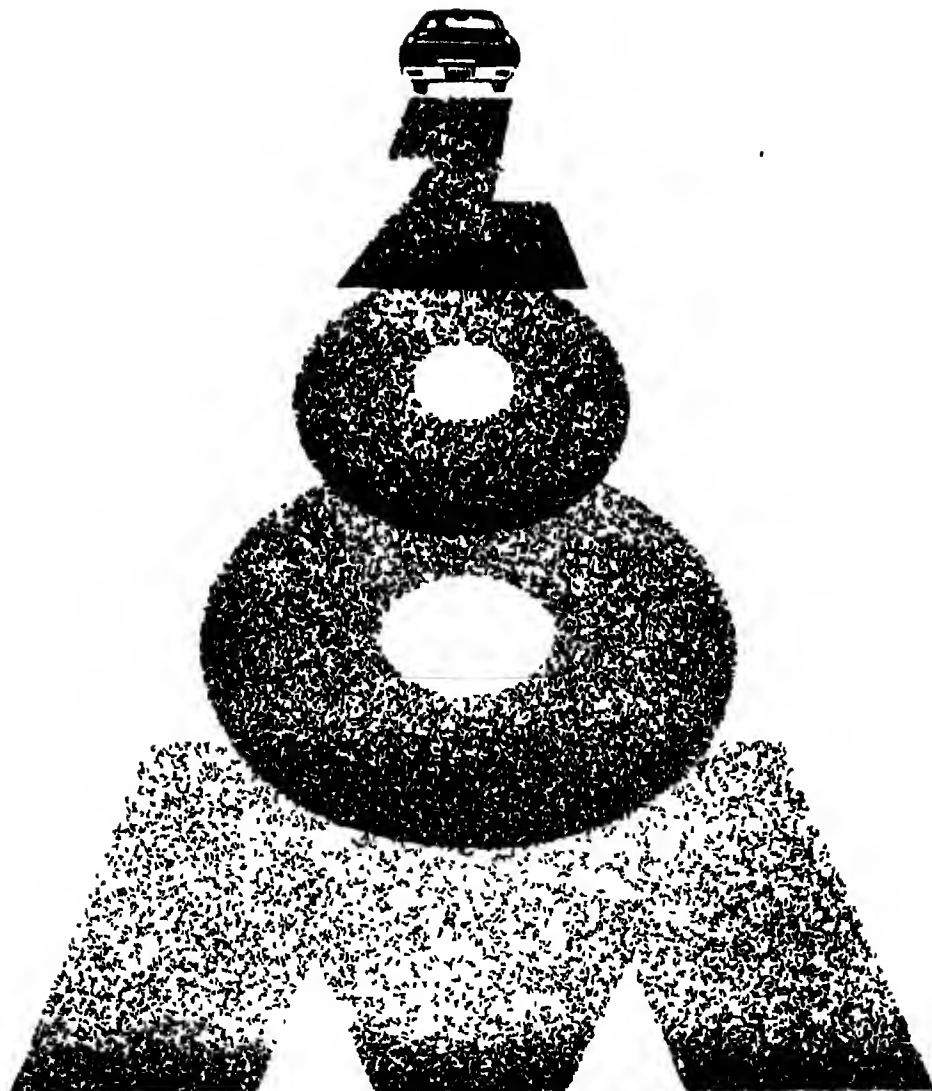
est paid pro in the game with a salary of about 100,000 dollars a year. No one begrudged him this, however, for he was as big an attraction in basketball as Babe Ruth had been in baseball. Huge crowds flocked to see him.

But to return to his records — March records. On March 2, 1962, playing for Philadelphia Warriors against New York Knickerbockers, at Hershey, Pennsylvania, he achieved the fantastic feat of scoring 100 points on his own.

Warriors won an amazing victory by 169 points to 149. No man had ever before topped the century of points in a National League game.

In 1964 he was concerned in another record when he was transferred from one Philadelphia club to then local rivals the 76ers for a fee of 300,000 dollars (about £107,000) and three players!

—DAVID HENDERSON



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by JIMMY MEHTA

IN a recent Team-of-Four Progressive event, I found myself declarer in this contract of "4 spades" reached against silent position

xx
Axxx
AQx
Kxxx

AQJxxx
J9x
x
10xx

The opening lead was a low heart, ducked in dummy losing to East's Queen. On the return of a low heart, I inserted the nine spot letting West's King and dummy's Ace. A spade finesse held. How do you proceed?

The short point of the hand is that barring 4-1 trump breaks if the spade finesse is right your contract is safe provided you do not repeat the finesse. The play to the first two tricks almost certainly indicates a three-three heart division. Correct play is to hang down the spade Ace and if the King does not drop, to cash the heart knave and throw East in with a spade forcing a return into dummy's minor suit tenaces. You can now enjoy your thirteenth heart after pulling trumps. The gambit might lose a trick but gains two. It is tempting to enter dummy with the diamond Ace repeat the finesse and play for the club Ace on-side. This line results in either an over-

trick or a one-trick set. Rejection of the finesse whilst ensuring your contract still leaves chances of an over-trick if the spade King is doubleton and the Club Ace on side.

Though in progressive it occasionally pays to go out on a limb for an over-trick, on this short-point game the possibility of your opponents playing a partial should dissuade you from endangering your contract. In practice my safety play broke even because the spade King was doubleton on-side and the club Ace favourable. The over-trick was there regardless of how I played but as luck would have it game was not bid in the other room.

The lay-out was something like this

xx
Axxx
AQx
Kxxx

xxx
Qxx
xxx
AQxx

Kx
K10x
KJ10xxx
Jx

AQJxxx
J9x
x
10xx

The return of the club knave at trick two would have been better for the defence. The play might then proceed: club King won, spade finessed, diamond Ace, spade finessed and five trumps run to reach

Axx
Qx

Qx
x
AQ

10x
KJ10

J9
10x

On the last trump, if West discards a club, declarer is doomed. Declarer could have countered this earlier — yes, you have seen it. If declarer takes the calculated risk of a doubleton spade King with East rejecting the repeat finesse and preserving his diamond Ace, this is the six-card ending:

Axx
AQ
x

Qx
xx
AQ

10x
KJ10
x

J9
x
10x

Declarer can now play a diamond to the Ace, ruff out the diamond Queen exhausting West of diamonds and throw him in with a club. On this defence declarer is restricted to ten tricks and might go down unless he judges the cards perfectly.

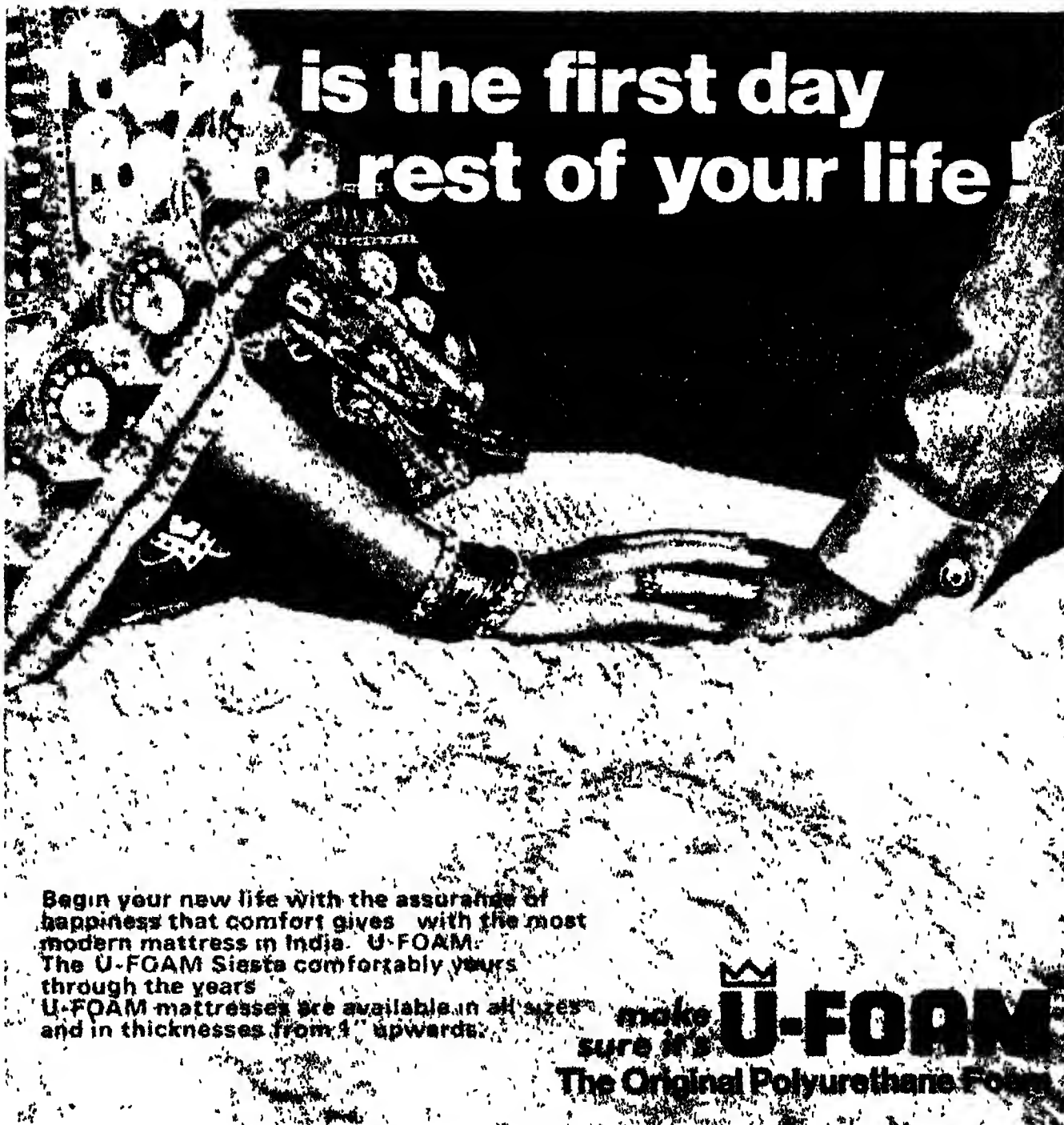


Johnson and Johnson Sports Club A' won the fifth Inter-Pharmaceutical Duplicate Contract Bridge Tournament in Bombay recently. From left: S. Raj, R. K. Matta, A. R. D. Sequeira, A. Y. Medhekar, J. V. Sequeira and M. S. Paranjpe.

STATISTICIANS CORNER

by B. B. MAMA

	T	I	NO	R	HS	Avg	100's	50's	Cl	St	B	M	R	W	Avg	5wI	10wM	Best
VENGSARKAR, D. B.																		
v West Indies	2	3	—	61	39	20.33	—	—	2	—	5	—	7	0	—	—	—	—
v New Zealand	3	6	—	83	30	13.83	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5	9	—	144	39	16.00	—	—	4	—	5	—	7	0	—	—	—	—
VENKATRAGHAVAN, S.																		
v England	8	13	3	139	24	13.90	—	—	7	—	1539	49	634	15	42.26	—	—	4.52
v Australia	5	9	1	87	24	10.87	—	—	4	—	947	55	320	12	26.66	—	—	4.71
v West Indies	12	17	1	235	51	14.68	—	1	7	—	3813	151	1603	38	42.18	1	—	5.95
v New Zealand	7	9	3	50	25*	8.33	—	—	7	—	2452	172	696	33	21.09	2	1	8.72
	32	48	—	511	51	12.77	—	1	25	—	8751	427	3253	98	33.19	3	1	8.72



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Speed, sense on track & the road



JACKIE STEWART the world's greatest motor racing driver, was the star at a delightfully organised press conference by Goodyear Tyres in Bombay recently.

Stewart fascinated his audience with his facile, lucid and eloquent exposition of the various features relating to motor racing in all parts of the world.

He emphasised that while speed had its place on the tracks it certainly did not on public roads. There has to be a sense of discipline on roads as much as there was discipline on the track. Some form of good driving education was most essential, he said.

Goodyear have done a great deal of very useful work for safety on the highways and then technology for the sport of motor racing is the best that one can hope to get.

It was amazing to see Jackie Stewart so fresh, fit, smart and tireless in spite of having arrived in Bombay only a few hours earlier and having already addressed other groups before meeting the press.

He could not help showering plaudits on the British Airways who had always meticulously planned his flights all over the world in their prompt and exemplary fashion.

That Jackie Stewart is the

world's greatest race driver has been proved beyond doubt. He won the World Driving Championship in 1969, 1971 and 1973. Stewart has won more World Driving Championship points than anybody else. He retired from racing after winning his 1973 World Driving Championship.

However, he still retains his keen interest in racing. He is a racing correspondent, a much sought after speaker and a highly respected racing analyst for American Broadcasting Company Television in the United States and Europe.

Although he owns a picturesque mansion in Switzerland, he is seldom there to enjoy it, being instead on the road almost constantly to meet commitments to racing sponsors and others who buy his services.

He has written a book, "Faster,"

about his racing activities which has been serialised for a magazine, and he is active in dozens of other business ventures.

He writes a regular column for select newspapers throughout the world under the title 'Jackie Stewart Column'. The column is made available by the courtesy of Goodyear International Corporation.

He is also a consultant to Goodyear Racing Division, who are constantly developing better, faster and safer tyres for the world of racing.

While Stewart's primary interest in racing has always been the Grand Prix circuit, he's been successful in other phases of the sport, too.

Stewart's skill behind the wheel is unquestioned. And those who know him well say at least a part of his skill comes from being a cautious and a smart driver.

Since a near tragic accident in 1966, in which Stewart found himself pinned in a wrecked race car, soaked with gasoline, he has become racing's most outspoken advocate of safety—in driving equipment, in cars and even in race track design.

He was one of the first drivers to wear long underwear soaked with a fire-retardant solution. He has talked loudly and often about the need for breakaway guard rails, catch fences, open infields and elimination of poles and trees lining the course.

He has even worked with a designer to develop what he considers the 'perfect' race track. It hasn't been built because the cost is too high, but he has personally financed a model of the track as a demonstration unit.

On several occasions he has refused to drive on tracks which he considered unsafe. In most instances, his protests resulted in quick track renovations.

Stewart has a quick mind, an outgoing personality that allows him to be comfortable in any crowd and puts visitors at ease, and an outstanding ability to communicate effectively.

Play a game

—TODAY

Illa & Smita outstanding

CHALKING up a meritorious record-breaking double, Bengal's Illa Pal undoubtedly emerged as the outstanding swimmer of the 33rd National Aquatic Championships at Secunderabad recently.

Fourteen-year-old Illa's admirable performance was an encore to her efforts of last year at Trivandrum, where also she had improved upon the women's 100 and 200 metres Indian marks. She returned timings of 1 min 31.8 secs (100 m) and 3 mins 17.6 secs (200 m) to better the previous national records by 0.3 sec and 0.7 sec respectively.

Her performance is all the more praiseworthy for she comes from a poor family and has little facility of sophisticated training. Most of her training is done in the river Hoogly. This year she also had the misfortune of losing her father shortly before the National meet.

She is a powerful stroker, and has progressively improved since her debut in the junior championships three years ago. She is the brightest star on the horizon of Indian swimming.

However, the prima donna of the four-day competition was Maharashtra's 19-year-old Smita Desai, who bagged five individual gold medals and anchored her team to a resounding victory in the freestyle relay. This was a repeat of her performance during the 1972 Madras and 1973 Jaipur National Championships, where also she had performed a similar feat.

Smita won the 100 m, 200 m and 400 m freestyle, the 200 m individual medley and the 100 m butterfly



Illa Pal... record-breaking double

stroke. Winning the individual medley, she was adjudged the best all-round swimmer. Though she was at her best in the freestyle events, she was unable to better her own year-old Indian record in the butterfly stroke, her pet event, which was scheduled on the third day.

Among the men, Mohinder Singh Rana (Services) continued to rule supreme as the best distance freestyler, registering a fine treble with a national record in the 400 m freestyle (4 mins 41.4 secs). He was unchallenged in all three events.

Rana is a rhythmic stroker and paces himself admirably. It was collegian Anil Ganju's (Rajasthan) early challenge in the 400 m that pushed Rana to a better effort and improve upon the National mark.

Young Anil is maturing into a potential long distance freestyler, and should go far in the future if he is able to surmount mental inhibitions. However, he gave off his best competition performances at this meet.

In all six Indian records were improved upon. The other record breakers were Asis Das (Railways) — 100 m back stroke 1 min 08.3 secs, Avinder Singh Brar (Delhi) 100 m breast stroke 1 min 15.4 secs, Asis Das, M. Halder, Gaurav Purakant and S. Saha (Railways) — 4 x 100 m medley relay, 4 mins 37.1 secs.

The keenest race of the competition was the men's 100 m butterfly stroke — only 0.7 sec separated the first five contestants. Maharashtra's 'Raju' Takle had a slender lead over the field at the turn and maintained the lead till 25 m to go when he swallowed some water and his rhythm was broken. Railways' Yang Chin Shin won the race with a powerful burst in the last 10 m. Thus Yang Chin Shin avenged his recent Inter-Railways

defeat at the hands of Gaurav Purakant, who finished fourth.

However, the next day Gaurav had his revenge when he ousted Yang Chin Shin in the 400 m individual medley. Gaurav took a commanding lead in the open stroke, the butterfly, the pet stroke of both swimmers, and hung on to it.

Maharashtra's two juniors, Mrudula Shetty and Sharmila Bakshi, gave sterling performances. Mrudula gave off career best performances in the 100 m (1 min 33.6 secs) and 200 m (3 mins 18.5 secs) breast stroke events. Sharmila clocked her best (1 min 23.1 secs) to win the 100 m back stroke event for the first time.

Both Mrudula and Sharmila have tremendous potential, but need to build up strength if they intend making their presence felt in higher company. Also both should opt for specialisation in stroke style.

Services retained the water polo title defeating Bengal in a close encounter. It was the winner's staying power that turned the tide in their favour after the first two quarters. The overall standard is on the decline. The dearth of sharp shooters and speedy players is strongly felt.

The medals tally is as under:

Men	G	S	B
Services	11	6	4
Railways	5	3	3
Delhi	1	4	5
Rajasthan	0	2	1
Bengal	0	1	3
Maharashtra	0	1	0
Punjab	0	0	1
Women	G	S	B
Maharashtra	7	1	4
Bengal	2	1	0
M. P.	1	0	1
Rajasthan	0	5	3
Kerala	0	3	1

—HOSHY MISTRY



Smita Desai... five golds



Sharmila Baksh . . . 100 metres
back stroke victory



Gaurau Furakait . . . 400
metres medley winner



Asis Das . . . record in the
100 metres back stroke



Ram Kumar . . . platform
diving winner



Yang Chin Shin . . . 100
metres butterfly
stroke champ



Sarla Sarvate . . . spring
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BUZZING AROUND

by BUSYBEE

THE trouble with all those who are shocked that Bishen Singh Bedi has been appointed captain for only two Tests against New Zealand is that they do not know with what meticulous care the national selectors of the Board of Control for Cricket in India operate

The day the national selectors met, they had two names for the captain's position before them and eight Tests to spread them over (three against New Zealand and five against England)

The chairman called the meeting to order and said "Gentlemen, I take it that we are all agreed that the choice of captain lies between Bedi and Gavaskar and there is no third contender for the post"

One insignificant little selector, sitting at the end of the table, tried to catch the chairman's attention, but the chairman ignored him and continued "It is our desire that both the players should be given a reasonable chance to prove their worth. Any suggestions?"

Q WHY has Bishen Singh Bedi been appointed captain for only the first two Tests of the series with New Zealand?

—Jagmohan (Bangalore)

A I doubt whether even the selectors can give a convincing explanation for that

Q WILL "Tiger" Pataudi be available again for Test matches should he be made the skipper once more?

—K C Thiruvikraman (Mudvi)

A THE question of "Tiger" being available or not available does not arise any more

Q I am a player with ten years' experience behind me. I am keen on becoming an umpire. What is the procedure to be followed?

—Raj Kumar Sarai (Churu, Rajasthan)

A YOU must approach your state association and pass the umpires' examination

A member stood up and stated: "I propose that Bedi be appointed captain against New Zealand and Gavaskar against England. Nobody can then say that we have not been fair"

"Not quite," said another member. "The fairest thing to do would be to make Bedi captain for the three Tests against New Zealand and one Test against England and Gavaskar for the remaining four Tests against England. It will be a historic decision."

The insignificant little selector at the end of the table decided to speak, but the chairman silenced him. The chairman said, "Gentlemen, cricket is not like buying vegetables that we can divide the captainship half and half. If we do not want Vijay Merchant to devote his next three speeches at various prize-distribution ceremonies, over which he presides, criticising us, we had better find a more acceptable solution to all concerned"

A member said: "Perhaps, we can alternate captains from Test to Test. And, for the first Test, we could toss a coin and decide who should we begin with as captain"

"No toss," said another member. "However, we could have Bedi lead the team in the first innings of the first Test and Gavaskar in the second innings. It may set a precedent and even England and Australia may start appointing their captains by the innings"

Another member said "That

would mean that the same person would be leading the team for half the Test. This seems to me to be a very long period and may lull the captain into a false sense of security."

Just as the insignificant little member was about to interrupt, another member got up and observed: "I suggest that it would be worth trying out the system of having joint captains, as we once had for our national hockey team and are likely to have again. This would be a good idea, especially as we are in the process of trying out our captaincy"

The chairman said "Joint captaincy always means trouble. Instead, we could appoint a new captain every day and, since the selection will be made at the last minute, it will keep all the captains on their toes"

"Not the full day," said a member. "When we have decided to experiment, let us go about it fully. Let us change captains with every session of play. Say we have Bedi till lunch, then Gavaskar from lunch to tea, then Bedi again from tea to close of play"

At this stage, the insignificant little member finally made himself heard. "Please," he said, "could we have Venkatraghavan as captain for one session?"

"Here we go again, provincialism, provincialism all the time," said the chairman. "I thought the national selectors had finally got over that"

A THE success of a formation depends largely on how well a team is able to carry it out

Q WHY don't we have an award for the best stroke just as we have for the "man of the match," etc? Don't you think it will encourage strokeplay?

—Ashwini Jain (Calcutta).

A WE can have as many awards as there are sponsors

Q HOW many wickets has Abid Ali captured in Tests?

—Qamrul Hassan Qamar (Calcutta-9)

A FORTYSEVEN wickets for 1,980 runs off 4,164 balls at an average of 42.12

Q IS a batsman out if the ball hits a fielder's body before it is held?

—Narayan K Devadiga (Bombay-60)

A YES. The batsman is out even if, after hitting one fielder, the ball is caught by another

QUESTION

IN CHATTEBOX

IS not technique more important than luck in cricket?
—Dhananjay Patro (Bhubaneswar)

A YES. The better the technique the less the need for luck

Q THE ball first hits the pad and then the bat before it is held by a fielder. Could the batsman be given out?

—Kunlay M Shah (Ahmedabad)

A YES, the batsman is caught

Q WOULD you agree that the 2-3-5 formation in soccer will be more advantageous than either 3-2-4 or 4-2-4 formations?

—V. Sambasivan (Bombay)

Master Plan for sport

Start with daily PT

PHYSICAL training should be made compulsory in schools for all students. Where there are no playgrounds in schools, the PT exercises should be conducted daily in class rooms. Once a week such exercises should be done together by all the students. Class competitions should be held every month. This will create awareness amongst the students for physical fitness.

Where there are no facilities for games but open space is available, the students should be asked to do some running daily. This can later be developed into cross country races. Most of the runners in the world are generally spotted from rural areas, where people run for pleasure only.

To ensure mass participation and pride in being a sportsman, PT competitions and "mile races" should be conducted on festivals and on Independence and Republic Day etc.

The authorities should provide school children with proper equipment and also keenly watch their progress in sports. Time lost in sports should be compensated by arranging special classes for studies. This will also remove the parents' grievances that their wards do not get enough time for studies because of sports. The students who take part in sports should also be given wholesome diet all the year round.

Similarly sportsmen employed gainfully against "sports quota" in many offices complain that they are not given any facilities for playing and hence they lose all incentive for play. The employers should not allow this talent to waste.

The NIS Patiala has posted coaches all over the country and in addition there are coaches employed by State Governments, sports councils and other associations. But it is felt that most of the coaches lack missionary spirit. Without such spirit and zeal a coach is no better than "a book on sports confined to the dusty corner of a locked almirah in a library." We do not need armchair coaches.

The players should be taught discipline right from the start, in the matter of proper uniform, punctual attendance, obedience to the command of coaches and captains, and above all team-spirit. Any instances of indiscipline should be sternly dealt with.

There should be a code of conduct for players and officials alike.

If a player misbehaves, or an official does anything to harm the game, he should be immediately "shunted" out. Such disciplinary action is all the more necessary in the case of teams touring abroad. They should know that the country comes first and a win or loss comes later. National honour should be upheld on and off the field.

All said and done the plan for promotion of sports cannot succeed unless there is sincerity of purpose, selfless devotion, hard work, a spirit of sportsmanship on the part of players and officials alike.

—M P Verma (Chandigarh).

Stress on camps

SPORTS must be made compulsory in schools and colleges. At an early age students should be picked out by experts who will move from school to school and will spot out talent in different fields. These experts will have distinct areas to control. The chosen talent should then be sent to coaching camps which are to be established permanently all over the country.

Only qualified coaches are to be employed. During vacations, inter-camp competitions should be held. This will help improve their standard. Those who perform successfully in these competitions should be selected for more intensive coaching under foreign standards.

The daily routine at schools and colleges must give ample scope for the students to show their merit and talent in sports.

An all India sports body, under the direct control of the Central Cabinet with a Minister in charge of it must be set up with branches in different states. This should be the sole controlling authority over sports in the country. This body must have abundant finances. It may have a share in the gate receipts of all big tournaments in the country.

Sportsmen must be provided with equipments free of cost and their food and other necessary essential requirements must be supplied to them.

One or more national universities must be set up for sport and champions from schools and colleges will be admitted there, strictly on the basis of merit. There they should get expert training by coaches who must have acquired experience abroad in their fields.

Last but not the least, the competitors at the end of their sports career must be provided with suitable employment. They are the teachers to guide budding sportsmen of tomorrow at schools and colleges. They are to be the men wholly dedicated to sports and the state must see to it that they have their say in the field of sports.

—Chitra Priya Chakravorty (Calcutta 5)

Four points

FIRST of all the interest in sports should come from within and not without. So convert India into a sports minded country.

Politics, politicians and persons without sports knowledge should not be involved in sports. Ban all sports associations.

Form a national physical education board or committee and through it the budget should be distributed. 1. To promote sports in the country, 2. To better standards, 3. To conduct different meets, 4. To give funds to various clubs, institutions, magazines, libraries, scholarships etc.

Sports must be compulsory in all residential schools and colleges (As one of the subjects).

Starting of sports schools (at least two for the present) in every state with free boarding and lodging for the students.

Financial help to the clubs and institutions which are really helping in the promotion of sports.

Import sports equipment, films, audiovisual systems etc to popularise sports among youth. (From countries like GDR, USSR, the USA and Britain).

Encourage Indian sports magazines by supplying necessary requirements for their publication.

—Prasad (Hyderabad)

A healthy mind in a healthy body

Indifferent step

ONE of the most indifferent step taken by the Cri-Control Board is their decision to prepare spinning wickets for the forthcoming Test matches against New Zealand and England. The Board president's arguments for such a move do not justify logic and as such is difficult to comprehend in the light of creative results in cricket. When the entire nation went delirious for evolving schemes to train fast bowlers after our setbacks in England, New Zealand and the West Indies in recent year., the Board had a responsibility to think in that direction and take drastic measures on the subject.

The latest trend has shown that we are going back to the traditional course of temporary short lived successes, instead of trying to find out a solution for our deficiency in this department.

—R P Chakravarty (Calcutta 17).

Looking ahead

MADHAV MANIRI (October 17) has rightly advocated for the retention of old guard. We have a good team now with enough talent to take on the best of the opposition. What the players need is confidence in their ability and support from the selectors who should not make them feel that they are always on trial. Once the class and worth are proved, certain failures, which are a part of the natural vagaries of the game, should be taken in stride and the player concerned should be encouraged to do better. At present such privileged treatment has been restricted to very few.

—C Partha (Bangalore 11)

MADHAV MANIRI has elaborated and analysed the problems of Indian cricket very well (October 17). But he did not comment on wicketkeeping and wicket keepers. I personally feel that Farokh Engineer should be called. Kirmani has let us down very badly on the last twin tours.

—Dr M S N Sharma (Jabalpur)

Superb

THE latest issue of SW's World of Cricket is fabulous and can be compared with any cricket publication in the world. The articles covering the WI-England series are superb, the pics fantastic and the colour blow-ups out of this world. Keep it up.

—Somesh Guha (Calcutta 54)



A farce

THE recently-concluded Iran Trophy match was a farce, to say the least. It was unfair both to the late Zai Irani as well as the paying public that came to watch the game for, the selectors decided to treat this fixture as a trial.

Aspirants is perhaps the wrong word to use for, there were some in the Rest who, it can be confidently predicted, will never make the Test grade.

In the end, nobody gained anything and I am sure, Bombay too did not enjoy their victory.

—N Mohankrishnan (Lucknow 2)

THE selection of a weak Rest of India team for the Iran Trophy match clearly indicates the shortsightedness of the selectors. Bedi should have led a stronger side comprising of Viswanath, Patel, Kirmani, Chandra, Venkat and Prasanna who did not have much match practice so far this season.

—Dr K Srinivas (Madras)

For the Iran Trophy

The selectors did a job so shoddy that poor skipper Bedi

Was left to hold the baby

—L L D'Souza (Bombay-27)

Recall Mankad

If statistics and current form is any guide, I would advocate for the recall of Ashok Mankad to strengthen our middle order batting. He has scored in each and every match this season.

—M A Rasheed (Bombay 58)

I JUST had to write and tell BUSYBEE how much Premjit, the family and I enjoy your article every week. It actually makes us laugh and is always so topical. Congratulations for a great sense of humour and do keep it up.

—Georgina Lal (Calcutta-17)

Great loss

THREE days before his tragic death, I rang up Jimmy Mehta and he informed me that he was going to Madras on 11th October and from there to Bangalore to examine the progress made on the Grand Prix tennis tournament. He was appointed referee for the tournament.

He was very happy when he was elected senior vice-president of the AILTA recently and it appeared that he was going all out to help juniors and improve their standard.

In 1947 he played Davis Cup with me and I have very sweet memories of his kindness and generosity. We both had agreed to play doubles at Wimbledon in 1977, it being the centenary year.

He was most lovable, large-hearted person and his untimely death is not only a loss to Indian tennis but to most of international officials and players. I have lost my closest friend and this gap will never be filled. RIP.

—Dilip Bose, Secretary, AILTA (Calcutta).

Which Mohammed?

THIS has a reference to your editorial (October 3). The story of Mohammed not going to the mountain, but the mountain going to Mohammed, although widely used in English and other European literature, does not refer to the Prophet of Islam in any manner. The story referred to a court jester by name Mohammed, who used to joke about his extraordinary miraculous powers in the court of the Turkish Caliph to entertain his royal audience.

—K Hussain, Principal, M. H. Saboo Siddik Polytechnic (Bombay)

I HAVE no words to express my gratitude for the Pele series now appearing in SPORTSWEEK. It has been very useful to all football lovers.

—Ashim K. Ghosh (Durgapur 5)

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FIGURES

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WHEN Peter Petherick, the 33-year-old off-spinner from Otago, dismissed Javed Miandad, Wasim Hasan Raja and Intikhab Alam with successive balls in his 16th over on October 9 at Lahore, he became the first New Zealand bowler to perform a hat-trick in a Test, and only the second (after England's Maurice Allom) to do so on his Test debut.

Petherick's feat provides the 17th instance of a hat-trick in a total of 782 Tests upto the Lahore Test. It has been achieved by 15 bowlers seven times for England, six times for Australia, twice for West Indies, once for South Africa, and now once for New Zealand.

The Australian T. J. Matthews has the unique distinction of performing the hat-trick in each innings of a Test, and another Australian H. Trumble has also done it twice in separate series.

The following is the complete list

ENGLAND

W. Bates v Aus (Melbourne)	1882-83
J. Briggs v Aus (Sydney)	1891-92
G. A. Lohmann vs SA (Port Elizabeth)	1895-96
J. T. Heane v Aus (Leeds)	1899
M. J. C. Allom v NZ (Christchurch)	1929-30
T. W. Goddard v SA (Johannesburg)	1938-39
P. J. Loader v WI (Leeds)	1957

AUSTRALIA

F. R. Spofforth v Eng (Melbourne)	1878-79
H. Trumble v Eng (Melbourne)	1901-02
H. Trumble v Eng (Melbourne)	1903-04
T. J. Matthews v SA (Manchester) 1st Innings	1912
T. J. Matthews vs SA (Manchester) 2nd Innings	1912
L. F. Kline v SA (Cape Town)	1957-58

SOUTH AFRICA

G. Griffin v Eng (Lord's)	1960
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WEST INDIES

W. W. Hall v Pak (Lahore)	1958-59
L. R. Gibbs v Aus (Adelaide)	1960-61

NEW ZEALAND

P. J. Petherick v Pak (Lahore)	1976-77
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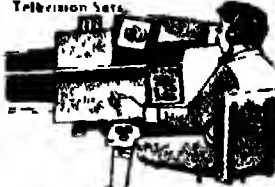
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KHALID ANSARI:

Happy days are here again

EIGHT Tests in 14 weeks! A veritable feast, indeed. Can the Indian cricket fans reasonably ask for more?

On the face of it, there should be a great deal for the rabidly partisan aficionados to shout about in the two series ahead.

The New Zealanders will be without the services of the affable, talented wicketkeeper batsman Ken Wadsworth — who has had to keep his date with the Maker at a young age (as do those whom the Gods love!) — and the experienced Bevan Congdon, Dayle Hadlee and Hedley Howarth who, for one reason or another, are conspicuous by their absence in the touring party.

The Kiwis, who under the astute and inspiring leadership of Glenn Turner have done enough in recent times to warrant promotion from the cellar position in international cricket which they have long occupied, will have to stretch themselves fully if they hope to run India close — on Indian wickets — as they did during their last tour of this country under Graham Dowling.

The preparation of Indian Test wickets is, for SPORTSWEEK, a vexed issue, one which merits a detailed analysis. Space restrictions do not permit such an exposition here but we have been, and hope to continue, highlighting this issue which we consider vital to the good 'health' of Indian cricket. Suffice to say for the present, it's time we looked beyond our noses and produced fast wickets, at least for the domestic tournaments and non-Test fixtures against the visitors now.

Despite our heartening — but often unfairly berated — showing on the twin-tour of New Zealand and the West Indies, many of our problems of finding the right players for the right positions persist. The less said about our attempts at 'producing' fast bowlers, the better.

The makeshift arrangements experimented on those tours may have succeeded to some extent but whether or not these measures have meaningfully solved the problems remains to be seen.

To that extent, a tremendous responsibility rests on the shoulders of the selection committee which, as in the case of the Board president and secretary, has been wisely retained. Only the jaundiced will dispute the fact that to-date the balance-sheet of their performances makes fairly satisfactory reading.

SPORTSWEEK hopes that they will discharge their responsibilities in the season ahead with responsibility and integrity and that personal, regional and non-cricketing considerations will find no place in their deliberations.

There's a great deal to be said in favour of continuity and fair trial in such matters, as in the case of selection of captain and 'uncapped' players,

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COVER: Asif Iqbal, Pakistan's dynamic all-rounder
Transparency. Patrick Eagar.

many of whom were tried out in this year's Ranji Cup fixture

The wisdom of including what are considered totally 'raw' players in the Rest of India XI, which should be representative of the best available talent in the country outside the Ranji Trophy winning team, is open to question. But the pipeline of young talent has run so dry that the selectors are left with no choice other than to take bold risks.

The history of Indian cricket is replete with examples of how not to administer a game, of (blissful?) ignorance of basics. But, it must be conceded, in all fairness, that the Board has acted most sensibly and pragmatically in the matter of increasing the players' allowance and providing security.

Knowledge, it is said, comes, but wisdom lingers. It would be foolhardy even to suggest that the Age of Wisdom has, at long last, dawned in Indian cricket. The Board is in robust financial health but the problems in the matter of providing the infrastructure, of broadbasing the game, of talent-spotting, of coaching, of finding worthy replacements for those of our cricketers about to retire, etc. are indeed staggering. It is to be hoped that with former distinguished cricketers now at the helm of affairs, the problems will be faced with greater perspicacity and realism.

Meanwhile, Suswagatam, Khushamdeed, a traditionally warm — but not hot — welcome to our honoured guests. We are hopeful that, win or lose, our team, as those of our visitors, will play the game that we all love in the right spirit and that both series will be memorable ones.

This editorial, which appeared in SW's World of Cricket (July-Sept., 1976) is reproduced for the benefit of SportswEEK readers.

THE HYDERABAD TEST

The fern droops

PAKISTAN defeated New Zealand by the comfortable margin of 10 wickets to take an unbeatable lead of 2-0 in the three-match series, and thus emphasise their overall cricketing superiority over the visitors from the land of the Silver Fern.

There were glum faces in the Kiwi ranks when Glenn Turner returned to the New Zealand dressing-room after losing the toss. It became certain after one look at the grassless pitch which was bound to deteriorate into a slow turner later on — a veritable spin-trap — that whoever won the toss could virtually dictate the tactical terms, if the captain controlled

the game with positive and purposeful expertise.

And so it proved to be. Mushtaq had captained Northamptonshire — the same county for which Saif-uz-Nawaz and Bishen Singh Bedi also play — with shrewd professional brilliance to gain them the runners-up berth in the County Championship and also win the Gillette Cup this season. He has now led his country to two successive wins in a convincing fashion, where previously Pakistan had the sorry record of only a solitary win in the last 26 Tests.

But winning the toss is not everything. It's how the best use is made of it which really matters. When Pakistan batted, they did so with methodical thoroughness to build up as big a total as possible, knowing that the wicket would not last. At lunch, the scoreline read like a death sentence on the luckless Kiwis — 105 for no loss, Majid Khan 61 not out. (He was to lose his wicket in the nineties

ket was now beginning to "bite," so to speak, the top-soil having completely disappeared, pounded away by the thundering feet of Richard Hadlee who was twice warned by umpires Shakoor Rana and Imanullah Khan for running on the pitch in his follow-through. Ironically enough, these rough patches were later to be exploited by Pakistan's dreaded wrist-spinners bowling round the wicket.

Mushtaq, who had reached his eighth Test century in the last over before lunch, ran himself out soon after, and another Mohammad — his brother Sadiq — took his place. Mushtaq left at 384 for 4, having added 164 with Asif Iqbal (73) who also was dismissed three runs later. Sadiq quickly lost three more partners until Wasim Bari joined him in an unbroken partnership of 46 for the ninth wicket which enabled Sadiq to reach his fourth Test hundred in the last over before tea.

This is an unprecedented record, it being the first occasion when two Mohammad brothers had scored centuries in the same innings of a Test, although a combination of two of the four famous Mohammad brothers has appeared in 57 out of the 78 Tests played by Pakistan in ALL of which at least one of the Mohammads has appeared. What a stupendous record!

Mushtaq promptly declared at tea to get the Kiwis in as soon as possible, and he got immediate dividends. Geoff Howarth of Auckland and Surrey playing on to Sarfraz in the very last over. The close of play score of 75 for 3 was further eroded the next day by some careless and inept batting. Sarfraz and Imran got three wickets apiece on a pitch which gave the medium-pace seamers no assistance at all (shades of Michael Holding at The Oval) by adhering to the basic virtues of bowling a good line and length with minimal movement off the pitch, forcing the batsman into error.

Frankly, the New Zealanders did not bat well, failing to show the patience, application and concentration required to stay put on this slow wicket, as John Parker and Andrew Roberts later demonstrated in the second innings when they followed on 254 behind on the stroke of tea on third day.

In fact, no wicket fell in the morning session on the fourth day, with Parker and Roberts easily able to survive against all the



Sadiq Mohammad — fourth Test hundred and part of an unique feat

by A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

for the third time in his Test career, having been out for 99 at Karachi against England in 1973 and for 98 at The Oval in 1974. Now, at Hyderabad, when on 98, he charged down the wicket to O'Sullivan who quickly changed the trajectory and left Majid stranded with a ball which spun away.)

Sadiq, who was troubled by cramps in the legs, retired soon after resumption, with his score on 56 and the total 136 for no loss. The steady, unspectacular, remorseless, grinding consolidation went on and on, and New Zealand toiled in the boiling sun with very little to show for their efforts. The teeming humanity in the packed stands at the Niaz Stadium buzzed with cheerful excitement.

At tea, the score was 185 for 2, and the death-knell of New Zealand was beginning to toll in the blazing heat. Mushtaq now dominated the proceedings in the post-tea period as punitive strokes of rare power flowed from his confident blade. At the close, Pakistan was comfortably placed at 289 for 3, Mushtaq 57, Asif Iqbal 24.

At lunch on the second day, they were still together, having added 94 in an unfinished stand. The dusty, crumbling, powder-puff wicket

wiles of the bowlers. By contrast, what happened in the afternoon session was a complete turnabout. The rot started with Mushtaq taking a marvellous one handed catch at forward short-leg off Miandad to dismiss Parker for a superbly controlled 82 — the only Kiwi fifty of the match.

The breakthrough had at last come. Miandad struck again to beat and bowl Roberts. Bob Anderson, on whom so much now depended, lashed out with impulsive haste instead of buckling down to the task with dedicated concentration, and he gave a skied catch off Intikhab to the bespectacled Zaheer Abbas at deep square leg, racing in at full tilt to get under the ball and diving full-length to hold it inches off the ground!

Under the spur of imminent victory, the Pakistani ground fielding now rose to electrifying heights. It was an exhilarating sight to see the burly Intikhab Alam racing like a panther round the out-field to cut off the fumes a desperate New Zealand needed to boost their score in a hopeless task to force Pakistan to bat again — a face-saving gesture. To this limited extent, it became a fascinating battle.

Excitement rose as the last of the frontline batsmen Mark Burgess perished to a tremendous skied ball after an eternity of waiting by substitute holder Wasim Raja at deep mid-off off Intikhab, who — three runs later — claimed Cairns and Hildie in the same over, returning at that stage startling figures of 4 for 27 off 15 overs.

At 193 for 8, New Zealand still needed 61 to make Pakistan bat again. Wicketless, or Warren Lees then struck some lusty blows before being held at cover by another substitute Mohsin Khan off Miandad.

At tea, New Zealand needed five runs with the last pair in to avert an innings defeat. They managed to level the score, before Sarfraz bowled O'Sullivan. Incidentally, Peter Petherick hit in this match the first boundary of his first class career in his best ever score of 12 not out!

During the tea interval, Mushtaq was presented with a cheque of Rs 5,000 by the District Cricket Association towards his Benefit Year fund donated by the citizens of Hyderabad.

Needing just one run to win, what was contrived as a comic-opera ending became a moment of high drama. Sarfraz came out with Wasim Bari for the final formalities. John Parker had donned the wicket-keeper's pads and gloves, and Warren Lees solemnly



Mushtaq Mohammad eighth Test century and a purse

measured out his run to bowl his first ball in Test cricket.

And he very nearly got a wicket with it — a genuine outswinger. Sarfraz edged him into the slips where Burgess dropped him. Only six bowlers in Test history have taken a wicket with their first ball in a Test career, and one of them was watching from the pavilion right then — Intikhab Alam. He must have felt a pang of sympathy for poor Warren Lees.

Sarfraz was tapped on the pad, second ball, and the stentorian appeal for lbw was turned down. He then gave a bumped ball return catch to Lees, pretending to walk off (all in good humour), and then ended a wholly satisfying match for Pakistan by executing an immaculate cover-drive which even Wally Hammond might have envied.

Cricketers of the week-23

BIRTHS

October 31: C K Nayudu (Ind) 1895, R D Parkar (Ind) 1946.

November 1: B Looland (Aus) 1923, G A Smithson (Eng) 1926.

November 2: V T Trumper (Aus) 1877, H Elliot (Eng) 1891, A H Bakewell (Eng) 1908.

November 3: D W Richardson (Eng) 1934.

November 4: H G Vivian (NZ) 1912, A Jones (Eng) 1938.

November 5: E Paynter (Eng) 1901, L L Wilkinson (Eng) 1916, D W Allen (WI) 1937.

November 6: J O'Connor (Eng) 1897, G O Rabone (NZ) 1921.

DEATHS

November 2: H B Cameron (SA) 1935.



The triumphant Indonesians, winners of the Tunku Abdul Rahman Cup
Liem Swie King (left), He Sumirat, Tjun Tjun
and Ade Chandra

ASIAN BADMINTON

King reigns supreme

INDONESIA completed an international badminton hat-trick winning the men's team event of the Asian Badminton Confederation championships at Hyderabad. They are the holders too of the Thomas Cup and the Uber Cup tournaments.

Indonesia were favoured to retain the title which they had won at Jakarta last, and their task seemed easier on paper when the Chinese team was announced without the names of their top two players Hou Chichang and Tang Hsein-hu.

The only change from the semi-final against Japan was that left hander Luan Chin replaced Fong Yu Yao-tung. The only possible reason for retaining Fang Kai Hsiang could have been that with the shuttles playing fast a hitter is preferred to a touch artist.

The weather, which was rather warm in the hall, was in favour of the victors rather than the vanquished. With He Sumirat and Liem Swie King having performed so creditably in the Asian Invitation and the All England, the Indonesians with the world's top doubles combination of Ade Chandra and Tjun Tjun were slated for a three-nil victory, but things did not go all their way.

This was evident right from the opening tie between Liem Swie King and Fang Kai Hsiang. The Chinese saw to it that Liem did have much opportunity of scoring on his strong points. And so did Liem. The match was like a cat and mouse tussle with both serving low and keeping play at the

by NANDU NATEKAR

net for an opening for a finish. And at any time the bid was sent to the rear they saw to it that it was a flat return.

The older Chinese showed signs



India's captain Prakash Padukone takes the oath on behalf of all the players

of doing in the second game and while King persisted in slowing down the game to tire him further and it was at this time that the Indonesian started to serve high to his advantage.

Hsiang did not fall for the bait and returned King's serves with a half smash which King had to send back high or crosscourt clear, which could be intercepted to advantage.

In the decider King was more consistent and continued the rallies to finish by biding his own time.

Few expected Indonesia's He Sumirat to lose to Luan Chin, who has no reputation to boast of, but surprisingly he did.

Sumirat paid dearly for his complacency. After having won the first game easily against his inexperienced rival, Sumirat made the mistake of taking things easy, and this gave Chin confidence and he became much steadier, while Sumirat lost touch. Surprisingly the experienced Sumirat did not bother to change his tactics and play his rival on the forehand rather than the backhand where Chin functioned to advantage.

In the decider while Sumirat was at a loss of ideas while Chin played a much more controlled game. This defeat came as a great shock to the Indonesians.

This was evident when Ade Chandra and Tjun Tjun began their doubles challenge against Cheng Ching chin and Sund Chin-an, but soon settled down to function well. The Indonesians were a



The Chinese team, runners-up in the team event, at the march past

Pics :
HOSEY
MISTRY

far too experienced combination to be troubled by their opponents.

In the first reverse singles Sumirat, with his continued inconsistent play against Fan Kai-Hsiang, shattered the Indonesian hopes of a 31 winning lead. One wondered where Sumirat's deadly finish, speed in movement and delicate net play had vanished. Sumirat tried to prolong the rallies but Hsiang was patient enough to wait for the opportune moment to score an ace or force Sumirat to errors.

Though under great psychological pressure, Liem Swie King rose to the occasion in the deciding fifth and last tie and clinched the issue for the Indonesians.

Initially King played safely against Luan Chin to gain the tactical advantage of a lead which he achieved. Throughout the two games King was always in the driver's seat, though Luan Chin troubled him spasmodically.

King was undoubtedly the hero of the Indonesian victory. He can safely be classed as a complete player, playing high percentage badminton, always serious about the task ahead of him, irrespective of the opposition he had to encounter, and being the player to score the maximum points against the all-time great Rudy Hartono proves my point.

The performance of the Japanese team, which had defeated India and finished third, was very heartening. Especially I must make special mention of their sheet anchor left-hander Masao Tsuchida. Though he was badly beaten by India's Prakash Padukone, he was not awed by it and played consistently and even scored a facile victory over Thailand's Jaiyen.

Smaller countries like Burma and Nepal, who have taken to the game of badminton recently, have adopted the pattern of the present trend of the game, which is lacking in our country with the exception of Prakash Padukone.

Plate for India

INDIA's victory in the Plate Championship, for the first round losers, is a poor consolation in the Fourth Asian Badminton Confederation Championships when they defeated Sri Lanka.

This was an encore of their performance during the last championships at Jakarta, five years ago when India had also won the Plate Championship. From the first championships in Lucknow (1965), India's performances have been a gradual deterioration. At Lucknow we were placed third and at Manila we were placed fifth.

Beating us by three matches to two in the first round, Japan gained sweet revenge, for India had beaten them in the match for the third and fourth positions at Lucknow.

India's face saver was our National champion Prakash Padukone who was the only one to win all his matches. He played good and controlled badminton, and should do well in the open events.

However, it was Devinder Ahuja's little performance that did not enable India to make a fight of the match. In the opening tie against Masao Tsuchida, Devinder played much below his usual form and could only offer a semblance of resistance in the second game after having lost the first tamely. —HM

A miracle

THAT India is a land of miracles and miracle men one has to believe after observing the manner in which the organisers of the Fourth Asian Badminton Confederation Championships gave the conduct of the tournament a semblance of sanity. This miracle was largely possible due to the officials of the Badminton Association of India and the personnel of the Andhra Pradesh Sports Council putting their shoulders to the wheel. Had it not been for their

last-minute untiring efforts the championships could not have got off to a smooth start.

The local organisers, a week before the commencement, did not know whether they were coming or going. Their stock answers to most queries was "We have not decided," and made many wonder whether the tournament would ever commence.

Till the last moment, the spit and polish brigade was busy giving the finishing touches to the court, and the players were always hampered during their allotted practice sessions.

Things that could have been completed weeks ahead were left to the last minute making many a well-wisher miss a heart beat. Often the court was swept while the players were practising, or the repairmen were busy on the courts with their high stepladders or other equipment.

Leaving things to the last minute has become a fashion with many of our sports organisers. When are we going to learn from our past mistakes and experiences? Never.

Poor BAI

THE Badminton Association of India's contribution towards the kitting of the Indian team seems to be very negligible. But for paying the tailoring charges for the blazer and the trousers, and a tie for men and a muffler for women they have provided nothing else.

The cloth for the blazer and the trousers was donated by Binny's through the efforts of the Karnataka State Badminton Association and three T-shirts were gifted by Symonds India.

Players who did not have the India track suit had to fork out nearly Rs 250 to buy them. And when questioned about payment they were told that they should be proud to spend that amount especially when they had the honour of playing for India.

—HOSEY MISTRY



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Hockey

Living in cuckoo land

NOBODY has done more to ruin the image of Indian hockey than the national selectors. They continue to live in cuckoo land and seem to suffer from the hallucination that players of international class can be spirited out of a conjuror's hat like so many rabbits. A case in point is the team selected to represent the country in the festival competition in Pakistan to celebrate the birth centenary of Qaid-E-Azam Jinnah.

The selectors have so much interest in the game and such a high sense of responsibility that they cannot spare the time to attend important meetings. Only three selectors were present at Cuttack to select the probabilities for the pre-Olympic training camp earlier in the year and only two of them — Maj Gen Eustace D'Souza and Walter D'Souza — were present at Madras to pick the team for Pakistan.

Indian hockey reeled under many grievous blows at Montreal. But this was no reason for the selectors to rush to panic stations. India are still the champions of the world and a more seasoned combination should have been chosen for the Pakistan competition. The side has no star value. Only four players of the ill-fated Montreal side have been retained. The others have been dismissed as washed up relics. And Aslam Sher Khan can hardly be enthusiastic about the inexperienced experimental side he has been nominated to lead in a country in which the average fan can be pretty critical.

There was no immediate form to go on. The selectors had to rely on their hazy general impressions of players to select the eighteen. The pair acted on its own initiative in opting for a completely new-look team. The selectors did not receive any mandate from the Indian Hockey Federation to sack established internationals who still have a good few years of top-class hockey ahead.

How honest and sensible have the selectors been in the choice of this second string? There can be no quibble about the goalkeepers. Both Chettri and Olympic Fernandes, who is definitely Olympic material, selected themselves. But Surjit Singh is still, in the opinion of many, a more dependable and trustworthy deep defender than either Aslam or Baldev Singh who have been retained. Prakash Bhatia, slow and cumbersome, may never shape into an international.

Vincent Lakra, speedy, mercurial, mobile, was the rage of inter-club competitions last season. But the selectors have had no time for him. They have preferred Chengappa and Gilbert Lobo at centre-forward. Lobo is a hopelessly over-rated player. He sustained an injury during the Nehru Tournament last year and seldom played a full match for Tata. On what form was he chosen?

The prop and mainstay of any team is the intermediate line. Why were the selectors in such a hurry to discard both Virinder Singh and Mohinder? Young and inexperienced half-backs can impose a terrible burden on any side and a more sensible approach should have been adopted to the problem of finding a suitable replacement for say Ajitpal Singh.

Pariminder and Sukhinder are good inside forwards. They may not have the finesse of Govinda and Ashok Kumar. But they are lads with some potential. Both Kaushik and Charanjit Kumar — the son of the Punjab goalkeeper Raj Kumar — are good lads. At the moment, they lack the skill, polish and craft of Phillips. Kaushik has to be constantly brought into the game, otherwise, he is inclined to sulk and lose interest in the play.

India will be hard pressed to convince the speculators that they are World Cup holders.

THE ART OF CRICKET

Forward defence

THIS type of defensive stroke should be used when the ball is pitched farther up than a good length and is on, or very close to, a direct line between the two sets of stumps. Its purpose is to smother any spin or swing which may be on the ball.

Supposing the ball was spinning so much that it changed course from leg to off five degrees on hitting the ground. If allowed to travel a mere six inches after pitching before hitting the blade, this deviation would not matter. But if allowed to travel a few feet, it might touch the edge of the bat for a catch in the slips. Obviously, therefore, to play forward to a short-pitched ball is bad theory.

It is desirable in forward play to keep the bat absolutely perpendicular throughout, therefore a reasonably straight back lift is required. The handle of the bat should be kept forward of the blade in order that the ball will be kept down. Always play close to the front leg so that the ball cannot get between bat and pad.

The left shoulder and elbow should lean forward towards the pitch of the ball and really drag the front foot and the body forward. Bend the left knee slightly to hold the weight of the body in balance and point the left toe towards mid-off or cover, varying it slightly according to the direction of the ball.

If the ball is pitched on the leg stump, for instance, the left toe will point more towards the bowler than it would be for a ball pitched, say, just outside the off stump. Keep the head well forward and down.

At the end of the stroke the right toe will be the balancing agent at the rear (right heel off the ground) and it must be kept firmly behind the batting crease. This precaution is necessary in case the ball misses the bat and the question of a stumping arises.

One of cricket's simplest errors is for a batsman to misjudge the length of a ball, play forward and be beaten by spin or swing. The tendency then is to over-balance forward—hence the need for keeping that right toe firmly down.

In forward defence the left hand is in control.

Note how the right-hand grip has changed until it has become almost a thumb and first two fingers only, at the bottom of the handle. The right hand acts really as a guide. No power is required.

I like the feel of the left hand at the back of the handle in this forward shot because it curbs any tendency to follow through.

Modern players tend to eschew the late cut altogether and their expressed reason is "too dangerous." Providing proper judgment is used the rewards to be gained from the shot are well worth the risk.

It should only be attempted when the ball is reasonably short of a length and not bouncing very high but is pitched well outside the off stump—it is cut rather in the direction of third or even second slip—and instead of hitting at right angles to the flight as with a square cut, the bat runs in an extreme case almost parallel with the line of flight at contact.

The ball is actually hit down on to the ground. It is normally on the rise when struck and therefore a snick is almost certain to result in a catch to the wicket keeper. That is why extreme care and precision are required.

It is usually unsafe to try the stroke against fast bowlers. The safety margin is too small and, anyway, fast bowlers usually have slip fieldsmen who would be in the way.

Likewise it is very dangerous against off-spinners, but against medium-pace or leg break bowlers there is a good chance of reward.

Power comes mainly from the wrists, but the ball's own momen-



late cut is full of grace and artistry and can be most rewarding

One contemporary Test batsman of mine played it with only moderate success because he invariably started to transfer his weight to his front foot (as though an

by SIR DONALD BRADMAN

tum is the chief source of its speed. The stroke is a short, snappy one and not a long swing.

After contact with the ball, the end of the bat should go straight down and almost hit the ground. In fact some players do actually hit the ground. This is a good indication of playing the shot correctly.

Whether to risk the stroke or not will be governed by the type of pitch and bowler and the position of the fieldsmen. It may not be worth while for a chancy single, but it may well be if a certain four is in the offing.

Having watched such delightful cutters as Kippax, Macartney and Archie Jackson play this late cut to perfection, I deeply regret that it seems to be disappearing more and more from the play.

But I suppose you can't be expected to late cut when most of the balls are pitched around the leg stump—a modern tendency which I deplore. Well played, the

xious to start running) as he was hitting the ball.

This action militates against watching the ball and very often draws the batsman out of his correct position, so that as often as not he cuts the ball too straight into the ground or gets it on the inside edge, sometimes pulling it on to the stumps.

It is vital that the weight shall be transferred to the rear foot and held there as the ball is struck.

Completely by accident the best shot I ever played was a late cut.

In the Leeds Test of 1930 I jumped down the pitch to drive but found I had misjudged the flight of the ball. When trying to get back I slipped and fell. However, by retaining my balance and control, I managed to back cut the ball to third-man for a single.

That, at least, was one occasion where a back cut saved my wicket rather than lost it.

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Andhra on the rise

THE balance of power in the South Zone Ranji Trophy league seems to be changing. Tamil Nadu are passing through a phase of rebuilding. Hyderabad appear to have reached the same stage. Their team which played Andhra in Eluru consisted of Chandran, Shahid Akbar, Paul, Narasimha Rau, Abid Ali, Jaisimha, Krishnamurthi, Mumtaz Hussain, Jyothi Prasad, Naushir Mehta and Abdul Wahab. This side, for the first time in the history of Andhra cricket, now 22 years old, lost the first-innings points. Where invariably in the past Hyderabad obtained eight, or often the full nine, points from this match, they had to be content with just three.

The reasons for Hyderabad's failure were two. They lacked the services of experienced and capable players like Jayantilal, Abbas Ali Baig, Pataudi, and Ramnarayan. The first three were dropped, the fourth was playing in the Irami Cup match in Delhi held on the same dates. Jaisimha, the captain, himself might not have played. It is understood that there was a tie in the selection committee over his selection in preference to Krishnamurthi, the other contender. The chairman, it is learnt, gave his casting vote in Jaisimha's favour. A controversy arose whether, in fact, the chairman had a casting vote to exercise. But it was not pursued, and Jaisimha will captain Hyderabad this season.

A comparatively inexperienced and possibly divided Hyderabad team was one reason for the failure in Eluru. Another was Andhra's rise. This had been evident in their match against Tamil Nadu in Coimbatore when their opponents, immeasurably stronger on paper, were hard put to it to win by the slender margin of three wickets. In Coimbatore Ravikumar, H. Ramprasad, Patrudu and, to a lesser extent, Varma had acquitted themselves well. Ravikumar earned selection in the South Zone team for the Duleep Trophy tourney. If I am right, he is the first Andhra player to gain this honour.

Ironically enough, he scored a "pair" in Eluru. This time it was Meher Baba who was prominent, aided by H. Ramprasad. All these three — Ravikumar, Meher Baba, and H. Ramprasad — have the advantage of playing in the comparatively rigorous atmosphere of Hyderabad. H. Ramprasad enjoys the same advantage, but in Madras.

These players, aided by the locally local talent, of which Pat-

rudu and Varma, both of Visakhapatnam, won the chief, more than held their own against Hyderabad.

Jaisimha won the toss, but put Andhra in to bat. He could not have found the decision an easy one to make. By agreement the pitch was to be covered, but rain was about. It duly prevented any play on the second day. Eventually, it was not the weather which foiled Hyderabad. If anything, it might be said to have saved them from outright defeat, though, of course, nobody can be dogmatic in this "game of chance." What foiled Hyderabad was the growing skill of the Andhra players.

Contrary to all expectations, Andhra batted the whole of the first day, losing eight wickets for 220. Except for the absent Ramnarayan, all the principal Hyderabad bowlers toiled, and they toiled in vain. Abid Ali, Mumtaz Hussain, and Naushir Mehta, who have borne Hyderabad on their shoulders for many seasons, could make little impression.

When play was resumed on the



M. L. Jaisimha, who retained the Hyderabad captaincy by a hair's breadth, holds the Moinuddowla Trophy, won by U. Foam XI captained by him.

third day, Hyderabad were in a parlous position at lunch, having lost six wickets for 38. Jaisimha, batting as only he can, patiently and cannily brought the score to 120 before the innings ended. This avoided the follow-on, but still it was Hyderabad's lowest total against Andhra.

H. Ramprasad who took three wickets and Meher Baba who claimed two showed not only their allround prowess but also the fact that what Andhra players need most is opportunity to play rigorous cricket. It is possibly this which prevents Varma from rising to the height of his undoubted skill. He commands considerable pace and the many crudities that disfigure his style are capable of rectification. But he does not seem to command the opportunity. Patrudu, the ebullient wicketkeeper, can also develop with opportunity.

The rest of the match was a formality. But Andhra's final score of 25 for five wickets in the second innings shows that the old fallibility has not quite disappeared. But that score cannot prejudice the impression that at long last Andhra cricket is becoming a power. If only Kerala cricket too develops, there will be many more sternly contested matches in the South Zone than before.

Andhra cricket's difficulties are now largely organisational. The players live in many different cities, Hyderabad, Madras, Visakhapatnam being the chief ones. Those in the Andhra towns like Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada and Guntur find little opportunities of rigorous cricket as those in Hyderabad and Madras do. In fact, Meher Baba and Ravikumar were quite prominent in the recent Moinud Dowla tourney, and so was H. Ramprasad to a smaller extent.

Now that Andhra cricket has proved itself, it is incumbent on the authorities to strengthen the organisation. There are some inherent defects like that of geography, but they can be overcome with enthusiasm and skill.

In the other matches of the South Zone league so far played, Tamil Nadu beat Kerala by an innings and 62 runs, Michael Dalvi scoring an unbeaten 108.

Hyderabad beat Kerala by an innings and 55 runs, while Karnataka scored on the first innings over Andhra.

—SANJAYA

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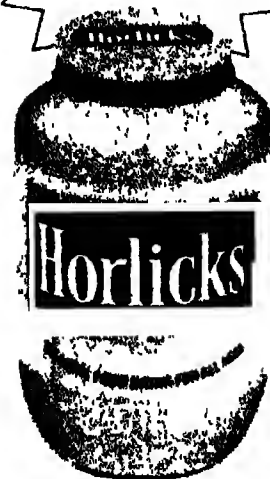
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GRAHAM BARLOW

by A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

GRAHAM BARLOW is not a stylish left hander. He is more forceful, yet there are few more glorious sights in the game than when he puts his right foot down the pitch and pounds the cover boundary. And when that happens it's a sign to the bowlers that Barlow is 'in'. Till that time he just picks the ball off his legs and tucks it away behind square or strokes it through mid on.

For a time his batting got bogged down the theory. Where and when exactly he let natural ability take over is hard to pinpoint but now there is obviously less of the coaching manual about his approach. In fact one falls back on the age old cliché 'he's a self made man' to best describe his batting. The story goes that Barlow was never taught batting but when Middlesex old timer Jack Robertson saw Barlow in action he told him to 'play it your own way'.

He flashed into the international arena with a lightning 80 not out against the West Indians in the limited over match at Scarborough. He did little in the remaining two matches but that first impression was a good one. The rise to fame has been quick, though if you look into the lineage it's hard to find even a trace of cricketing ancestry. Then Barlow took to cricket in a big way only when young Graham began stroking the ball in school making good use of a quick eye and nimble footwork which even at that age marked him out as one of outstanding ability.

He can scarcely be described as a young hope. By the time he completes this tour of India he will be 27. But his county Middlesex put him through a rough baptism before really launching him. The years in the PT school and on the rugby field have left their mark—this sturdy athlete thinks nothing of sprawling on the hardest of outfields to cut off certain boundaries.

Strangely, Barlow failed to consolidate his place in the Middlesex line up till last season. Call it an inhibition if you like. But when Larry Gomes was called up by the West Indian selectors to tour England with Clive Lloyd's team Barlow literally grabbed the opportunity to establish himself with both

hands — with the bat and in the field.

Last season he scored 1478 runs in first class cricket and that is more than double the amount he has ever managed before. And his fielding in the covers was positively brilliant. His pick ups and returns bordered on the incredible.

Indian crowds are bound to be delighted when Barlow and the other cover specialist, Derek Randall, patrol the region. Shades of Neil Harvey and Norman O'Neill



'Twas a big draw

WHILE the dispute as to who controls Delhi athletics continues unabated, athletics in the capital goes on unmindful of official quarrels with regular weekly cross country and relay races and climaxed with an all India meet, the sixth YMCA Open Meet where over 1,700 athletes took part

Athletes from as far as Pune and Ahmedabad in the west and nearly all the centres and sub-centres in the north congregated at the National Stadium, the large numbers creating quite some problem for the organisers who are accustomed to not more than about 1,000 every year

The main problem was accommodation, as nearly all the out station teams wanted to stay at the National Stadium premises. The Rajghat Centre, they rejected outright, as being out in the "jungle". And quite a few of these outstation teams did not bother to send the names of the athletes till quite some time after the last date of entry

In fact the organisers had only their telegrams in hand and only in some cases was the actual figure given. The result was the heats had to be recast again and again. And then there was the strange unwillingness of the winners to

come to the victory stand to receive their medals and certificates

Yet, for all these minor drawbacks the meet was an outstanding success, the biggest ever in this country. The National Institute of Sports, Patiala weighed in with a competent set of officials specially sent to Delhi for the occasion and with a few local officials joining hands, the crowded programme was gone through in creditable time

The most striking aspect of this year's meet was the rush of entries in the junior sections and that too in two events in particular, the 800 metres in senior boys and juniors and the 100 metres in nearly all the sections. In some cases there were as many as 15 heats for the 100 metres and perhaps inspired by the performance of Sriram Singh in the Montreal Olympics, the half-mile in one section had over 100 participants, forcing the organisers to run four heats

One reason which can be attributed to the heavy rush of entries could be the cancellation and postponement in January of the popular Cadbury's meet. The stadium was snatched away for wrestling purposes on instructions from "above". The other perhaps was the YMCA's offer of scholarships to ten promising youngsters in the



Surlinder Dev Mudgil of St Stephen's College... a promising long and triple jumper

sections under 17 and below. The scholarships, worth Rs 30 per month, per child would initially be for a period of six months and the extension of the facilities would depend on the report of the coaches at the NIS Centre in New Delhi. The scholarship is open to Delhi athletes only

The response being what it was the performance expectedly were good and though not many new records were set (understandably so because of the recasting of age-groups in accordance with the AAFI rules) it was still heartening to see so many youngsters turning in career-best efforts.

Young Harinder Kaur who hit the headlines as a sub-junior in the Cadbury Meets, won the sprints effortlessly in the girls' section while Anand Prakash of Vaish College, Bhiwani, proved the best athlete in the boys' section. Sports Stadium, Meerut, turned in a number of promising faces with middle-distance runner Anokh Singh winning three events, all in very creditable timings.

Anokh in fact could be said to be the find of the meet. On the opening day he won the 1,500 metres in 3:57.4, the next day, he claimed the 5,000 metres title, clocking 14:39.0 and the third day he won his third title, the 10,000



Girls from St. Thomas School receive the T.A.V. Jadhav Trophy for the march past from Mr. Jagjivan Ram

metres, in 30:37.8. In the latter two events he was given a close run by teammate Surjit Singh. It is a pity that this promising youngster was not called for trials to Patiala by the AAFI.

For Mark Rebello, Delhi's outstanding triple-jumper, this meet, the first after last year's YMCA Meet, proved to be a great event as he crossed the 15 metres barrier. He won with an effort of 15.14 and should be rated as among the top four or five in the country on this performance.

Others who impressed were Rita Vadhera in the women's section, Harjeet Kaur in the junior girls' group, Neelam Soni of Sports Stadium, Meerut in the women's section, Ashish Dutta of Panther Athletic Club, Ahmedabad, Sudersan of Delhi, in the sub-junior boys' group. Plus there was a prize for all the promising athletes in each section.

Shri Ram Chemicals of Kota produced the best athlete in the men's section in Baltej Singh who won the high jump in a record height of 2.01 metres while Ravi Kumar of Delhi University was adjudged the most promising athlete.

Apart from participation certificates to all the athletes, the organisers

gave medals to the first three in each event and merit certificates to the first six. There were many other incentives and some very attractive prizes some of them named after some famous people. There was the Jarnail Singh Trophy for the middle distance runner, the T. A. V. Jadhav Trophy, named after the former sports editor of Hindustan Times for the march past, the Otto Peltzer Trophy, the K. A. Nattakallapa Trophy, the Tarlok Singh Memorial Trophy, J. S. Trophy and Youth Times Trophy and so on.

Next time the organisers will have to tie up the loose ends. And they will have to be firm about the officials. Those of whom who promised and did not show up, should be kept out. Some of them were big shots in the country in their days but they should not be taken for granted.

And one wonders what happened to all the people in the P. C. Jain group aspiring to take over athletics in Delhi. Not one of them showed up and for that matter even senior AAFI officials who were in Delhi were conspicuous by their absence. In any case who bothers. Those who love athletics were there and that is what matters.

—SW Correspondent



Ashish Dutt of Panther Athletic Club, Ahmedabad, with the JS Trophy for the best athlete, senior boys.

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Pele: The Master and His Method

PENALTIES AND FREE-KICKS

Adaptation Ken Taylor

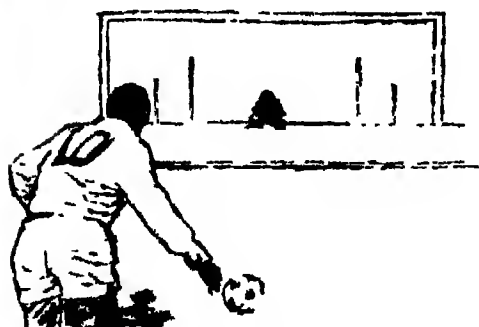
Concentration

Pele had scored 900 goals in top-class football. And now, in front of 125,000 fans in the Maracana Stadium in Rio, he prepared to take a penalty. What did he think about on the brink of his 1000th goal? THE BALL. Concentration must be total, and Pele has his own rules for taking penalties.

Those rules begin with the placing of the ball. Make sure it's firmly positioned on the penalty spot. Decide where you're going to kick the ball, then stick to your decision. DON'T change your mind at the last moment! Concentrate on the ball—above all, don't look at the goalkeeper.




Pele is the leader of Pepsi Cola's international youth soccer programme which includes a near £100,000 sponsorship of the English Schools F.A. under-16 competition.



Obviously, no penalty kick should be aimed at the centre of the goal—that territory belongs to the goalkeeper. Pele practices with sticks as markers. First place one

two yards in from each goal post—that is the area to aim for. Then try to get the ball in one yard of space between a stick and the post—and you should score every time.



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Amarjit Singh

I AM raw, I have still a long way to go. But I think I can and will keep improving. For, you see, my experience of competitive football extends to only four years. And of that I lost almost a full year due to what I now believe to be my over enthusiasm. The prospect of playing for a senior team was a bait that I could not resist.

Thus, while still at school I signed for Western Railway in 1974, though I was not on their payroll. I was on the field for barely a quarter of an hour in a Nadkarni Cup match and that was the only spell I donned the Western Railway colours. I was not even called for practice sessions.

I was disheartened. Especially as I felt that as a raw youngster I deserved to be handled with greater patience and understanding. I had to cool my heels for the rest of the season as I could not get a transfer. This was a situation that could have written limits to my career.

Fortunately, my father helped me get over the disappointment. His presence, advice and encouragement to forget what had happened and concentrate on improving my play gradually saw me regain my enthusiasm. He even let me leave the odd job at home and go for practice in the small ground — ten's throw from where I live in Kalina — the ground where I first started kicking a ball about and still do.

Apart from my father, I owe a great deal to my colleague at Orkay Mills who is also a National Institute of Sports qualified coach, Srinivas Salian. It was he who gave me the idea to report for trials to pick the Maharashtra team for the Junior National of 1974/75 that was to be held at Coimbatore. I was recommended not by Western Railway but by Zigzag, the club I first played for in 1972. I made the Maharashtra team, and my performances in the trials and the tournament at Coimbatore prompted Central Railway to draft me into their team.

As a newcomer to senior football I was a little apprehensive of how I would fare against seasoned players. Slowly, however, I was able to get the better of my opponents and that quietened some of my fears. I must have been faring fairly well, for during the last Rovers Cup I was approached by Jagatjit Cotton Textile Mills. I nearly joined them, though my grandfather frowned on my leaving Central Railway.

But what dissuaded me from my leaving Bombay and seeking a



transfer to JCT Mills and the Punjab was my father's advice. He was away in Muscat, and as the eldest of his children he wanted me to stay on in Bombay and look after the family. You see, I didn't have to go and seek a job. There was scope for me to use what I had learnt in helping my father in business. I am an electrician, motor mechanic and also know carpentry.

Still I may not have joined Orkay Mills but for Srinivas. Even before my father directed me to cast away any idea I entertained of leaving Bombay, Srinivas had impressed upon me that in the six months I would have to wait to apply for an inter-state transfer I might as well play Orkay. My grandfather's meeting with Mr. Itendra Mehra clinched my transfer to Orkay.

I believe that with Orkay I have been shaping better. For one thing my year with Central Railway and taste of football at senior level, besides tournaments outside Bombay, have helped in my development. For another I have with me at Orkay players with whom I have played for some years now. Besides Srinivas, my half-back in the Orkay team is Ganesh Rao, a neigh-

bour I have been practising with in the same ground at Kalina from 1972.

Like me, Ganesh Rao also was spotted by Srinivas at Zigzag Club. Rosario Fernandes is another Zigzag product now with Orkay Mills. A few others of the Zigzag team that set a record by winning the Bombay League, Third Division championship in the year of their debut, 1972, are with other senior clubs. From this you will realise that one of my luckiest decisions was to join this club.

Neither at the Municipal School nor at the Podar School in Santa Cruz — I have lived practically all along in Bombay though I was born in Ludhiana — did I have anything to encourage me at the game. I played cricket and basketball with my classmates at Podar. But that was only to kill time or to join in the fun.

Those games did not interest me as did football. I played in the small ground I had mentioned earlier after returning from school. It was mere enthusiasm that kept me going at it. I knew little of the finer arts of the game then.

That education started when I was told that a senior player and qualified NIS coach was next door and trained lads of Zigzag. I paid my subscription to the club so that I could learn and also have the chance to play with a full-size, regular football. Previously I had to be content with small, rubber balls.

As I told you earlier I was more enthusiastic than skilled. As a matter of fact I do not think any club scout would have so much had a second look at me, not even one who would think it odd that a Sikh should be kicking a football about instead of wielding a hockey stick. Even today, after a couple of years in senior football I have a lot of rough edges to smoothen out. But practice has made my trapping, screening of the ball and speed with the ball better. Though I still find some defenders tough nuts to crack the few occasions I have succeeded encourages me to believe that I can increase the frequency.

I do realise though that to achieve that I have much work to do. I intend to work diligently with the help of my colleagues at Orkay Mills. Yes, I have yet to win Maharashtra's colours in a senior National. I aim to win them. Also aim to and earn my India colours. It is my target, as I think it is of every young footballer.

Text: Sharp-Shooter
Pic: Rio

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Deodhar



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Hazare

The Hindus who won the last Quadrangular on the Bombay Gymkhana ground. Standing: Bannerjee, Hindlekar, Gharat, Mankad, Amarnath, Bhagwandas, Patel, Wali Ahmed (umpire). Sitting: Naoomal, Godambe, Jai (capt.), Merchant and Amarsingh. Ground. K. N. Divekar



1936 and all that

by J. NAOOMAL

VOLUMES can be written on the thrilling cricket matches and sparkling performances during the 100 years of cricket on the Bombay Gymkhana ground. Those matches were regular cricket carnivals.

From 1895 to 1906 two Presidency cricket matches were played every year between the Europeans and the Parsees, one in Bombay and the other in Poona. From 1907 to 1911 the Triangular Tournament was held, the third team being the Hindus.

The fourth team, Mohammedans, joined in 1912 and the Quadrangular Tournament was held till 1936 though there was a gap for four years between 1930 and 1933. Thereafter it became the Pentangular Tournament with the addition of the Rest. The venue then shifted to the Brabourne Stadium.

I have happy memories of cricket on the Bombay Gymkhana ground. It was in 1921, as a school boy that I watched my first match on this ground. I was on a holiday from Karachi and grabbed the chance of watching such great cricketers as C. B. Fry, Wilfred Rhodes and George Hirst playing for the Europeans in the Quadrangulars.

That year they won the tournament comfortably and I will never forget the thrill of watching Fry hit the first ball he received straight over the bowler's head into the pavilion for six. He went on to thrash the Parsee bowling to the tune of 44 in only 10 minutes before being stumped by Bahadur Kapadia off Driver.

Fry's innings set me thinking and I longed to bat like him. How I wished that dream would come true. And believe it or not it did. Thirteen years later I faced up to Mohammed Nissar and lifted the first ball he bowled to me very near the spot where I had sat and watched Fry.

Two innings that will always stay fresh in my memory are the ones played by F. G. Earle and C. K. Nayudu in the first match between the Hindus and the MCC tourists. Earle scored 130 hitting nine 6s and thirteen 4s. Nayudu bettered him scoring 153 with eleven 6s and thirteen 4s. And I shall always remember Nayudu's words to me before he went out to bat. He said "Youngster, watch me batting. Never allow the bowler to dictate to you. On

the contrary, dictate to the bowler from the start, bearing in mind to treat every ball on merits." He proved his point in that innings, and changed my approach to batting.

The curtain fell on representative cricket on this lovely ground when the Hindus defeated the Europeans by 257 runs in the four day final match of the Bombay Quadrangular Tournament played on December 26, 27, 28, 29, 1936.

On paper both sides were well matched. It was consistent batting in both innings by the Hindus, especially Vijay Merchant 130, Amarnath 74, Bannerji 51 and M. Bhagwandas 76 and the match-winning bowling by Amarsingh 8 for 54 which enabled the Hindus to win by the comfortable margin of 257 runs.

Hindus won the toss and opened with Merchant (32) and Hindlekar (19) who got off to a steady start.

After them, Vinoo Mankad (41), Amarnath (74), Jai (22) kept up the progress, losing Amarsingh's (2) wicket quickly. But Naoomal (26) and Bannerji (51) struck up a good partnership. The tail dropped and the Hindus' total was 292 runs. The successful bowlers were Longfield 4 for 42 and Tarrant 3 for 64.

The European batsmen did not rise to the occasion excepting Tarrant (78) batting at No. 8, and Hopkins (47), and they barely crossed the 200 run mark. Before them, Bromley (56) and Greer (23) did their job well. Bannerji 4 for 74, Amarnath 3 for 39 and Godambe 2 for 18 got the wickets.

In the second innings, the Hindus (376 for 7 declared) piled up a match-winning score thanks to Vijay Merchant (130), M. Bhagwandas (76), Amarnath (43), Amarsingh (36), J. Naoomal (20 not out), and Jai (20). The main wicket takers were Longfield 2 for 73 and Bromley 2 for 98.

The Europeans batted steadily in their second innings. By the time the effect of the roller wore off the time grew short to get the Europeans out. But the wicket crumbled and Amarsingh (8-54) ran through them. I had watched from close in and advised him to bowl from round-the-wicket. That was the turning point of the match. The Europeans were all out for 163 runs.

Slazenger

name dropping

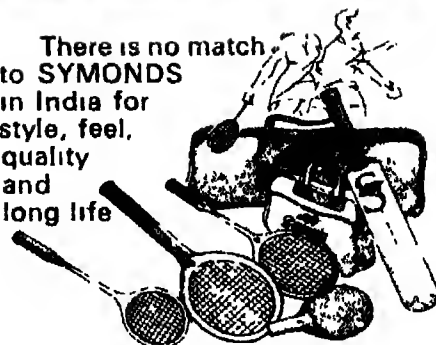
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TENNIS NOTES

Teaching 'em survival

NOW that real money and energy are pouring into the problem of producing a world-beating British tennis player, the temptation is to relax

The Lawn Tennis Association have assembled squads of intensely coached young hopefuls. But, I gather from Mark Cox, that temptation should be resisted

Cox's homecoming really ought to be something of a triumph

Four years in North America, difficult but successful in the basic aim of getting hold of some hard currency (last year's haul dollar equivalent of £40,000), have not affected his rating as Britain's No. 1 player.

But the open, very English face creases into a vague sort of regret when he tells you. "Let's face it, I'm over the hill. What odds would you get on my winning Wimbledon? Perhaps a million to one

"I suppose when I finally come to assess my career I will have to say I suffered the English complaint. I didn't take things seriously enough"

Cox is currently pursuing the financial mole-hills of the Perinod tournaments. They have offered, in exotic locations like Perth, Bournemouth, and this week Aberavon, top prize money of £75

The tournaments are, in fact, about encouraging a competitive instinct among the squads assembled by the Lawn Tennis Association.

Cox, 33, says. "I'm very impressed by the effort which is going into these squads. We are teaching young tennis players what is required to survive on the professional circuit. For the first time."

Cox, who got a degree in economics at Cambridge, has been taking a more penetrating look.

And his conclusion does not slip easily into the format of a publicity hand-out. He says: "I haven't seen a Bjorn Borg. And I doubt that our system is readily going to produce one. All of tennis is now concerned with producing percentage tennis

"The best natural player in the world is, arguably, Ilie Nastase. And he plays percentage tennis

"If I have any regrets it is that it took me to the age of 27 before realising what it took to live with

the John Newcombes and the Tom Okkers.

"So I got serious, too late. The problem for tennis is that it has got too professional. The danger is that the whole business can blow up"

It can blow up, argues Cox, because the whole thrust of coaching now is to preclude the mistake. It's a serve and volley business, good for the strong boy with the powerful serve, death for the subtle nuance of the Jaroslav Drobný

But Cox does have a lingering belief in the British

He concludes. "The squad system is going to give the young British player more of a chance than before. There will be no illusions about what is necessary. A young player will not have to go through the practical lessons that affected Bobby Wilson and myself

"Hopefully, too, there will be a young player who can benefit from the strict coaching. And who also has something more to give than mere professionalism. That must be the hope"

No black champs

EIGHT years after he burst into the limelight by winning the first US Open Championship at Forest Hills, Arthur Ashe remains the only black player in big time tennis

And Ashe, now 33, believes that because of economic reasons, lack of early training and a preoccupation with other sports like basketball and football, it may be 10 years before another player of international stature emerges from

the growing ranks of young black enthusiasts.

"We have a huge future in the game," he says. "But the key to black progress in tennis lies in the public schools. If we don't beef up the tennis programmes there, only the parents of the middle-class black child will be able to afford to kick out the extra dough needed for him or her to compete."

The money goes for equipment and for access to good instructors and facilities

Although Ashe says he doesn't feel there are racial barriers to prevent young blacks from taking up tennis, he believes limited access to good private clubs damages their chances of success.

"There is definitely some amount of prejudice when it comes to following through with intermediate and advanced training because the best coaches, the best facilities and the best competition is still found in private clubs — and these clubs don't usually have blacks as members," he says.

"Tennis is not part of the cultural mainstream of the black community. If you are black and want to make your mark in tennis you literally now have to leave the black community because it's not a part of us yet."

Ashe and Althea Gibson, another black who rose from the paddle ball courts in Harlem, to win at Wimbledon and Forest Hills during her career in the '50s, were in New York participating in a tournament sponsored by the United Negro College Fund. Proceeds from the tournament will be used for tennis scholarships at black colleges.



Arthur Ashe . . . it may be 10 years before another like him comes along

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WHILE one of his Knights is under attack Black suddenly conjures up a combination offering the other Knight to demolish White's castled position. This is followed by a temporary Queen offer and from the welter of complications Black emerges with two exchanges ahead. This game won the brilliancy prize in the Accu max Open Tournament in Bombay.

SICILIAN DEFENCE

White N Neelakuman
Black N Ghalib

1 PK4, PQB4 2 NKB3, NQB3 3 PQ4, PXP 4 NXP, NB3 5 NQR3, PQ3 6 QPB4 (a) PK3 7 BK3, PQR3 8 QK2, QB2 9 000 (b) NK4 10 BN3, PQN4 11 KKK1 (c) BQ2 12 PKB4, NB5 13 BB2, 000 14 PK5? (d) PXP 15 PXP, NXP (e) 16 N(4)XNP, PXP 17 NXP, NXP (f) 18 NXP, BR6ch 19 KXN, BN4ch 20 QO2, BN5 21 BQ4, BXP 22 NAB, BXR 23 KAB, RAB (g) 24 NAR, NO2 25 NB3, KB2 26 KQ2, RQ1 27 KB3, PR3 28 PQR4, KN3

29 KN4, RQR1 30. PB4, RR4 White resigns.

(a) Sozin Attack.

(b) More cautious is 9 BN3

(c) On 11. PKB4 Black could not have put his Knight on QB5 because of 11... NB5? 12 N(4)XNP, PXP 13 NXP and 14 QXN

(d) White should have first got rid of Black's dangerous Knight by 14 BXP e.g. 14... PXP 15 PK5, PXP 16 PXP, NQ4 17 NXP, PXP 18 PK6 Better for Black is 14 QXB offering exchange of Queens

(e) A bolt from the blue White cannot take the Knight in view of 16 KXN, BR6ch 17 KXB, QXN threatening 18 PNP5 mate

(f) Another surprise Leaving his Queen and Knight under attack Black quietly takes the Rook

(g) Simpler than trying to keep both the exchanges

Here is another brevity from the same tournament. This time Ghalib is at the wrong end

QUEEN'S INDIAN DEFENCE

White R Ravi Sekhar
Black N Ghalib

1 PQ4, NKB3 2 PQB4, PK3 3 NKB3, PQN3 4 PKN3, BN2 5 BN2, BN5ch 6 BQ2, QK2 7 00, BXR 8

QXB, 00 9 NB3, PB4? (a) 10 PQ5, PXP 11 PXP, PQ3 12 KKK1, QNQ2 13 PK4, KKK1 14 NKR4, QB1 15 NN5 (b) KRQ1 16 NB5, NK4 17 PB4, NN3 18 N(N)XQP, NXP 19 NXP (c) RXP 20 NB6ch PXP 21 BXR, RQ1 22 QRQ1, RXB 23, QXR, BXP 24 RXB, QR1 (d) 25 KRQ1, NB1 26 RQ8, QK5 27 RXPch, Black resigns

(a) Correct is 9 NK5

(b) The Benoni position without the KB and with the QB misplaced is not good for Black. His QP is now undefendable

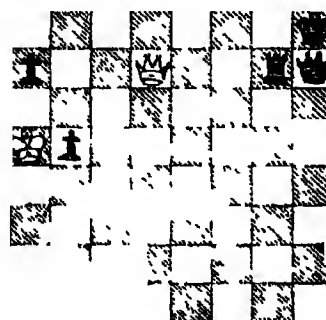
(c) More imaginative than the materialistic BXP which would give him the advantage of the exchange.

(d) Black tries his best to save his Queen but is helpless against White's final blow

CORRECTION In the game Ravi Kumar Aaron given on 17-10-76 the notes f, g and h were written from wrong positions

END GAME

By N Hcg.



White Kf5, Qd7, Rc1

Black Kh8, Qh7, Rg7, Psa7, b5

White to play and win

1 Qe8ch, Qg8 2 Qh5ch, Qh7 3 Rc8ch, Rg8 4 Qe5ch, Qg7 5 Qh2ch, Qh7 6 Qh2ch, Qg7 7 Rc3!, Rf8 8 Qh2ch, Qh7 9 Rh3 or 8 Kg8 9 Rg3 wins

How much do you know?

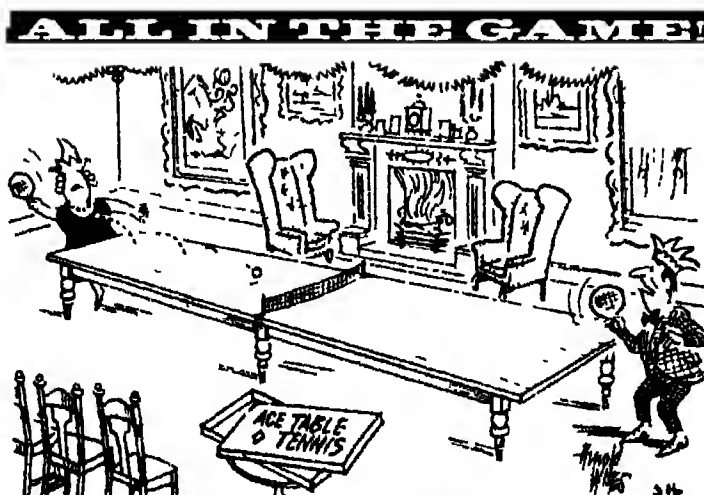
by HOSFY MISTRY

- 1 Can a table tennis game be won at the score 23 22?
- 2 Is castling possible in chess if the square which the King is to occupy is attacked by an opponent's piece?
- 3 Can a player raise his hockey stick above his shoulder during the follow through of a stroke?
- 4 Can women athletes be subjected to a sex test during an international competition?
- 5 What should be taken into consideration by boxing judges when awarding marks?
- 6 Is an underwater rouch at the turns and the finish of a swimming race permitted?
- 7 After making a stroke what must a squash player do?

Yes 5 a) The number of well-timed blows, b) defence, c) in-fighting, d) ringcraft, e) clean boxing, f) leading and g) style 6 Yes 7 Get out of his opponent's way as much as possible

ANSWERS

1. No After 20-all the winner must have a clear two-point margin 2 No 3 No The player shall not raise any part of his stick above his shoulder, either at the beginning of the stroke, when approaching, attempting to play, playing, or stopping the ball 4



"I can't think what it is but I've a feeling we're doing something wrong."

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—by JIMMY MEHTA—

HAVE you included Namyats in your bidding armoury?

Skippy pre-emptive hands which just about qualify for an opening bid of four in a major are opened as such. The better variety, with lurking slam prospects, are opened "4 Clubs" and "4 Diamonds" to show hearts and spades respectively.

My partner and I have our own version of Namyats. Briefly we open "2 NT" — an idle bid in our system — to show a seven or eight card solid major with an Ace or King outside — a hand containing seven and a half to nine winners. Responder may sign off in 3 hearts to indicate misery or bid 4 hearts without slam interest. Opener, of course, corrects if his suit is spades. A response of "3 Diamonds" enquires partner's suit and then relays enquire about opener's side values, singletons, voids etc. A response of "3 Clubs" is an immediate relay also conveying to opener that his suit is known. Last

ly, a response of "3 Spades" indicates willingness to play game if the suit is Hearts — but a hand valueless for a spade game.

We came a cropper, alas, in our first outing. Sitting South, both sides vulnerable, I held:

Jxxxx
Jxx
x
K10xx

Partner opened "2 NT" and RHO passed.

My systematic response was perhaps "4 hearts," but then there would have been no disaster and no poser for you. I could not resist a probe and monkeyed around with a bid of "3 Diamonds" dreaming of the perfect hand with partner, which could produce a slam on a combined count of eighteen.

Void
AKQxxxxx
xxx
Ax

Unfortunately, we have or think we have the mechanics to find out all this.

The Auction proceeded

N	E	S	W
2 NT	Pass	3 D	Dbl
4 H	5 D	?	

I was not the only one to depart from systematic requirements! Partner was supposed to indicate his major at three level and give me room to launch my relays. Anyway his jump to "4 Hearts" seem-

ed to suggest a nine winner hand. If his values were outside Diamonds we should be on for five. His hand could approximate the dream hand, with a singleton spade perhaps, in which case "5 Hearts" would be icy and their "5 Diamonds" too close for comfort. Should I make a forcing pass? Would partner bid "5 Hearts" with diamond losers? Or, horror of horrors, could we have wasted diamond strength despite the competition of my vulnerable opponents?

My dream hand was disintegrating into a nightmare. What would you have done? Silly question! You would have bid 4 Hearts in the first place and passed in the given situation. How right you would have been for this, believe it or not, was partner's hand.

xx
AKQxxxx
AQ10
x

I bid 5 Hearts, was doubled to boot and we went one off. 5 Diamonds doubled nets a mere 800!

There was perhaps a clue which I missed. Partner's jump to 4 Hearts suggested that the double of "3 Diamonds" had improved his hand — Diamond values — as he fiercely pointed out in the stormy post-mortem. I am sure I was wrong but I was left wondering what message a redouble of 3 Diamonds was supposed to spell out in this situation.

RECORD BOOK

Beating nerves

ON March 20, 1958 Marlene Mathews, 23-year-old Australian girl from Sydney, broke the women's 100 yards world record. It was not only a brilliant athletics achievement but a personal triumph over a long succession of disappointments and failures.

Nerves, often caused by the fear of recurring muscle trouble, had always prevented the pretty Marlene from proving her potential as a natural sprinter. At 18 she failed to gain selection for the 1952 Olympics. In 1954 she broke down in her heat of the 100 yards at the Commonwealth Games.

At the 1956 Olympics, when she was expected to follow in the gold medal footsteps of that other wonderful Australian girl Marjorie Jackson-Nelson, she had to be content with bronze medals in both sprints. The girl who took the golden honours was Betty Cuthbert — another brilliant Australian girl.

Then in March 1957 Marlene Mathews became Marlene Mathews.

Willard after her wedding to Sydney fireman Barry Willard. Marriage seemed to change not only her luck but also her whole approach to athletics. From a nervous "also ran" she flashed into the world limelight.

Came the 1958 Australian Women's Championships and housewife Marlene was fired with the determination to beat her friend and rival Betty Cuthbert and attain the pride of position she felt was rightly hers.

Betty was joint holder of the world 100 yards record, with Marjorie Jackson-Nelson. But in the final of the women's sprint, on the

sunlit Sydney grass track, Marlene gave the greatest performance of her career and smashed the world record by one second.

In that thrilling battle with Betty Cuthbert she became the first woman ever to run 100 yards in 10.3 seconds.

Two days later, on March 22, Marlene Mathews-Willard triumphed for the second time over Betty Cuthbert, when she won the 220 yards championship in 23.4 seconds another world record.

Marlene Mathews-Willard has seen her records beaten, but those two wonderful record-breaking days in March 1958 will ever remain her proudest memories.

— DAVID HENDERSON

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Zonal round-up NORTH

Rajasthan soccer

JAIPUR

RAJASTHAN Police, who jointly held the trophy with Julundur's Leaders Club last year, had an easy time this year, and were declared winners of the All-India Baldeo Ram Mirdha Football tournament. The recent curb placed on teams participating in the all-India tournament has hit the small tournaments, their resources are not enough to meet the demands of big teams and in the absence of big teams the spectator interest diminishes.

Two teams, Narcotics, Neemuch

and S.E.R.A.A., Nagpur impressed. The Neemuch team had two good forwards J. K. Nigam and Prahlad Singh. Nagpur's centre-forward Kamaluddin was ebullient.

National Engineering Industries, a local institutional team, who took to football only this season, caused a major upset when they beat mighty Punjab Police by two goals to nil to enter the semi-final. The N.E.I. combined well, particularly their inside forward Sultan Singh and skipper Prahlad Singh broke through the cops' defence line with ease. Sultan, who scored the first of the two goals for N.E.I. met with an injury which fractured his leg.

The first semi-final between A.G. and Leaders was marred by incidents. A.G., who were downed by two goals, started questioning the referee's decision. The controversy resulted in the abandoning of the

match and ultimately A.G. was scratched by the tournament committee.

N.E.I., who had three players on the injured list, refused to play the semi-final against Rajasthan Police and gave a walk-over. This further mounted the problems of the organiser who had to forego a "good gate". N.E.I. should have fielded their reserves instead of giving a walk-over.

The final between Rajasthan Police and Leaders was hopelessly one-sided. The Police team was better in every department of the game. Their inside forward Sushil Kumar and striker Magan Singh toyed with the Leaders' defence. The Police defenders heavily guarded Harjinder and thus paralysed the whole defence line. Police, led by Magan Singh beat mighty Leaders by their skill and speed.

—PRAKASH BHANDARI

Patu Football

ALLAHABAD.

SHOWING better opportunism, Hindustan Cables, Burdwan inscribed their name on the coveted Patu Majumdar Memorial football trophy, defeating Hindustan Steel Limited Mecon Sports Club, Ranchi by a lone goal at the Stadium ground here.

In a match, which seldom rose to the expected heights, the Burdwan team — last year's runners up — gave a vastly improved display. They appeared a better side. On the other hand, the Ranchi team put up a subdued display.

The match was won and lost in the 17th minute of the second half, when, following a defensive lapse, Chandan Naha netted the match-winner with a fine header.

Nineteen teams — 10 outstation and 9 local — participated.

—SANTOSH SINGH



Anand Shukla, captain of the U.P. Civil Services team, receiving the Sri Sethuraman Memorial State Cricket trophy from Mrs. R. Sethuraman. The winners beat Northern Railway in the final.

Punjab badminton

CHANDIGARH:

DEVINDER AHUJA and Kanwal Thakur Singh retained the men's and women's singles titles, respectively, in the Punjab Badminton championship held recently here.

Most of the matches in the men's singles were either one-sided or marred by walk-overs. Vinod Vatrana, who has been selected to represent India and from whom much was expected, disappointed, going down tamely to Satish Bhatia. Only the men's singles final between Devinder Ahuja and Satish Bhatia provided real thrills though it did not touch great heights. Ahuja won at 7-15, 15-11, 15-2.

Kanwal Thakur Singh, fresh from her recent victories over Maureen Mathias and Ami Ghia at Bangalore, literally swept her opponents off their feet.

—M. P. VERMA



The Varanasi team, winners of the U.P. State Electricity Board's Inter-Zone Kabaddi tournament held at Varanasi recently.



The College of Physical Education, Rampur won the seven out of ten places in the 5 km. race held recently in Rampur. Radhey Lal Sharma, president, Zilla Parishad giving away a prize to winner Suresh Kumar. On his right is college principal R. S. Wilson.

Zonal round-up

EAST

SILIGURI

THE 42nd Bengal State Table Tennis championships created unprecedented enthusiasm among the sports loving people of this city.

Nacchu Mukherjee, Sadhan Dutta, Zal M Vania, Dilip Sinha, Dipak Halder and Batta Vishu were the leading players in the men's singles. But none of them, excepting Sadhan Dutta, the ultimate champion, gave impressive performance.

Debdas Bose was ousted in the pre-quarter stage by talented local young star Shyamal Das Batta Vishu, the recent champion in the Inter-Railway championships, though qualified for the quarter-final league got the fifth place. Zal M Vania (No 5 seed) was also ousted by another teenager Prasun Adhikari in the third round. Dilip Sinha was all at sea against the attacking tactics of Sadhan Dutta and lost in straight games in 17 minutes.

The men's doubles title went to two under-17 unseeded players - Soumen Ganguly and Dipak Bhat tacherjee. The two lads defeated Nacchu Mukherjee and Sadhan Dutta in the semi-finals. In the final, they defeated top-seeded combination of Dipak Halder and Batta Vishu.

In the District championship matches, preceding the State championship, Siliguri, the host, became the new champions in the men's and boys' group beating Burdwan and Hooghly, respectively by 5-2 and 3-0 margins. Hooghly retained the women's championship beating Burdwan 3-2.

—BIPLAB TALUKDAR

Bengal State T.T.



The Siliguri team, winners of the Bengal State Inter-District championship



Sadhan Dutta with the men's singles trophy



Chandrika Kaushik displays the women's singles trophy

PICS: NIKHIL



The Calcutta Customs team won the Second Division league and will play in the First Division in 1977



The Patna Varsity team (boys and girls) won the Bihar State University Table Tennis championship recently

Zonal round-up WEST

M. P. State T.T.

INDORE

IN the 19th M.P. State and Inter-District championships held at Rajnandgaon from October 8 to 15, Indore District once again came out supreme in all events and won the team championships in all events except in the sub-junior boys' section which was won by Durg District.

Indore entered two teams in each event and both teams shared the 1st and 2nd places. In league matches, M. Narayanan, Narendra Kaushik and Ranjan Dass stole the limelight and fought well.

The individual championship was played on a round robin basis and the defeats of Viju Pawar, Pramod Sen and Rajesh Kashwal at the hands of up and coming players in the 1st stage of the championship augurs well for the game in the state. The victory of Ranjan Dass over S. Rangitnan of Bhilai, the former State Champion and seeded No. 3, was particularly noteworthy for Ranjan who repeated the feat for the fourth time in the last two years.

Santosh Kaushik, the defending champion, suffered two reverses in the 2nd stage of the men's singles and ultimately got 5th place. However, his elder brother, Narendra Kaushik, a defensive player, who is playing with much more confidence than ever, won the title without losing a single game in the whole championship, defeating M. Narayanan of Bhopal in straight games.

Maya Gandhi of Indore lifted the women's singles crown for the first time beating Rajani Jain in four games. Snigdha Mehta, of Indore, lowered the colours of Rita Jain, the title holder and national junior champion of 1974, the latter getting the 4th position. However, Snigdha went on to win the junior and sub-junior girls' title with comfortable ease. The boys' singles crown went to Santosh Mishra of Indore who defeated Sunil Jain, also of Indore, in four games. The sub-junior boys' title was won by Anshuman Dass of Bhilai.

—JAI MAHAJAN

T. M. Goculdas, the Chief Executive of Scindia, speaking at the prize distribution function of Scindia S. C. and Sheth N. M. Shipping Cricket tournament. To his left are Mrs. Sumati Morarjee and S. C. Sheth.

Armando—full of promise

SIXTEEN-year-old Armando Gonçalves, a higher secondary student of Dempo College of Commerce and Economics, Panaji, acquitted himself creditably during the recently-concluded table tennis season in Goa.

Armando did not make any impression last year, but this year with Chawat the NIS coach there to guide him on proper lines, he has made rapid strides in the game. He won the junior's events of four tournaments besides emerging the All-Goa Inter-Higher Secondary champion.

In the junior events of all the eight tournaments Armando clashed with Aditya Tarkar in the finals and the honours were shared equally. But he could have won at least two more titles had he kept his cool. Twice Aditya managed to beat him when two games down. Nevertheless, Armando is better equipped of the two and has a finer foot work. Whereas, Aditya is not at ease when faced with a defensive player, Armando plays equally well against players of both types. Armando caused two major



upsets in the senior events of the Club Vasco Da Gama tournament and the Causaulim Youth tournament, respectively, defeating Subhash Pandit, the most successful player among the seniors this season, on both occasions.

"I know I have a long way to go but with proper coaching I am sure I can develop into a still better player. I get enough encouragement from my mother and sister but I sincerely feel that I should get the opportunities to participate in the outstation tournaments or to play against the leading players in the country." A fan of the former National Champion Khabad Javant Armando undoubtedly, is a bright star on the horizon of Goan table tennis.

—AJIT K. MOYE



Mrs. Suman Kirloskar presenting the Merchants' Golf Trophy to winners, Sham Kirloskar and Arvind Kirloskar of Kirloskar Oil Engines in Poona. Fifty-one teams took part.



V. Krishnamurthy, Chairman and Managing Director, Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd., Bhopal, commissioning the most modern lighting system on the tennis courts of BHEL Senior Club. Also seen in pic (from l) are: V. S. Raghavan, Director, Finance and K. S. Dhaddha, Dy. Genl. Manager, Personnel.



Zonal round-up **SOUTH**



Mohd Hassan of Andhra Pradesh won the Bhilwara trophy chess tournament held at Madras recently

Sukummar wins

VISAKHAPATNAM

RAVI SUKUMAR annexed the men's singles title in the sixth Andhra shuttle badminton tournament which ended here recently. He beat Ranjan Kumar Roy 153, 1015, 156 in the final. Ranjan Kumar Roy and Syam Sunder won the doubles title beating Ravi Sukumar and P. N. S. Prasad 1512, 151. Ruth won the women's crown beating Indu 113, 113 in the final. T. G. Subba Rao won the veterans singles final.

—A. PRASANNA KUMAR

Madurai Varsity sports

MADURAI

THE colourful XIth Madurai University women's games meet was memorable for the 538 students who converged from 40 affiliated colleges for three days here recently.

They witnessed the emergence of a mofussil college, V. V. Vannaperumal, Virudhunagar, not too well known till recently in the horizon of collegiate sports as the champions.

The meet which concluded at the vast campus of the Alagappa College of Physical Education at Karaikudi saw Vannaperumal College dislodge the champions Lady Doak emerging winners in chess, kho-kho and tennikoit. While they



Ernakulam claimed the Dalton McClelland trophy in the 19th All-India YMCA basketball tournament held at Cochin

Ernakulam tops

COCHIN

ERNAKULAM YMCA, led by former state star K. O. George, and coached by former junior international Alex Thomas, won the Dalton McClelland Trophy, in the 19th All India Inter YMCA Basketball tournament held here recently. The local heroes ousted the outfit from Tuticorin in a pulsating final 70-67.

Tuticorin YMCA had an easy passage to the final when they beat Alleppey YMCA by 92-76, while Ernakulam turned the tables on the Kunnankulam 72-62 in the other semi-final.

Holders Coimbatore had a bad day, when they succumbed to Kunnankulam in the quarter-final 81-78.

—YEKILY



The Mercy College team won the Calicut Varsity pre-degree athletic meet at Palghat

inflicted an innings defeat on Fatima College Madurai they finished Lady Doak's challenge at 315, 159, 159 in the tennikoit final.

Stocky Catherine Mary a Madurai University Blue from M. V. Muthu Pillai College, Dindugal, with her power-packed smashes and deft placements steered her team to a 8-15, 151, 1511 victory over Fatima in the volleyball final.

Another glamour outfit were the winners of the basketball final Sarah Tucker College, Palayamkottai. They rallied well to emerge winners at 37-29.

—CLOTILDA SEKHER

HSEB best

MADRAS

HARYANA State Electricity Board beat Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking by a solitary goal,

to win the All-India Inter State Electric Cos Football tournament at the Nehru Stadium, here.

The two teams were the joint-winners of the trophy at Patna last year and one almost thought this year's final was a repeat performance of the last year's, until the 23rd minute of the second half, when inside-left of Haryana, Deep Chand, centred one to his centre-forward Bagga, who nodded the ball home, to give Haryana their match-winning goal.

In the losing semi-finalists match, Kerala beat hosts Tamil Nadu in the tie-breaker, 3-2, after the two teams were locked in a 2-2 draw at the end of regulation time and the extra 15 minutes.

—ASHOK KAMATH

The Baselus College team, Kottayam won the K. T. Joseph Memorial basketball trophy, defeating Sacred Heart, Thevara, 59-55.

Master Plan for Sport

Get the goods

IF India is to be put on a reasonably high pedestal on the sports front we must deal with this problem on a war-footing. The first step would be to form a ministry, exclusively for sports at the centre. Provision would have to be made in the annual budget for the huge amount of money that would be required. Each state should be asked to contribute 10 per cent of their earnings from state lotteries.

The first duty that this ministry would do well to perform would be to set up factories for the manufacture of sports goods only (with stringent quality control). The products should then be marketed at subsidised rates. This would, in fact, be of great help to the many youngsters who, in spite of their love for sports, are deterred from taking part on account of the prohibitive prices of sports gear.

A university for physical education should be established and sports should be made compulsory in the school curriculum. Youngsters found promising and possessing aptitude for special events should be sent to the university when they are 12-13 years of age. There they should be made to concentrate and specialise in the events in which they show real proficiency. Facilities for furthering their academic interests should also be provided (this of course should be optional).

The general economic condition of our people acts as a great deterrent to youngsters taking to sports as a career. Hence, the entire expense should be borne by the university and jobs should be guaranteed to the sportsmen who complete their courses, training.

Our government is engaged in popularising family-planning on a very large scale, through radio, cinema and TV. These same media should be utilised for popularising sports.

To unearth talented sportsmen we could fall back on England cricket captain, Tony Greig's idea of discovering fast bowlers. Every year we should have an open-to-all sports meet at the district level with a very nominal entry fee. The promising athletes from each district would then compete at state-level meets and finally, there would be a national meet. One may argue that we already have such meets, but we have never had the village-youth participating in them. It is in the villages that, I feel, real talent lies dormant and with a sports ministry at the centre taking charge, things would look different.

The talent thrown forth would then have to be nurtured and turned into world beaters. Here we come to the question of coaches. Every state would send ex-sportsmen to the university at the centre which would also help turn out good coaches.

Finally, we must be wary of the bureaucrats who now have a vice-like grip over things. Sports should be left to sportsmen, men who have spent the best part of their lives trying to attain glory for the country. They are the men who would be able to impart a sense of patriotism and dedication to the youth.

—S Subramaniam
(Bairpur)

Sack the corrupt

THE first is to replace our corrupt officials with dedicated selfless workers.

The second is to participate internationally in as many sports as possible, not just hockey and cricket.



by RAILBIRD

THERE is intensive talk about the forthcoming elections to the RWTC Committee and it is certain to be the most hotly contested in recent years and the broad pattern which emerges indicates that it will be fought out on narrow communal lines.

Madhav Rao Scindia, who did not stand last year as he was out of the country, is now a candidate and as he is certain to be elected it follows that one sitting member will be ousted. P. M. Rungta returns to the light after over a decade and what is astonishing is that a concerted effort is being made to unseat a senior member who is a force in Western India racing.

The alleged reason for the action is that it was he who insisted on a certain winner being sampled in Bombay last season and though the samples were clean his attitude appears to have made him enemies. Vote catching involves hard work and influence and it is said that one person, who it is believed can command votes from a particular community, is being offered a much coveted stewardship if he

The third is to make a nationwide thrust for young and up and coming talent and give them a chance. Catch 'em young!

The fourth is to make India sports conscious through popular means like TV and cinema.

The fifth is to give classroom training for boys in schools. This also involves practical experience.

The sixth is to hold as many coaching camps as possible and to pick talented youngsters for special coaching in all sports.

The seventh is to give prize money. This can do wonders for there are poor boys who need it and therefore will work for it.

If India and its sportsmen put in a little extra effort, there would be even no need for a Master Plan.

It's high time we realise that it is not India, which is going down but that the other nations are coming up.

—Amardeep Hanspal.

can influence his circle to eliminate the senior official in their list of choices.

In knowledgeable circles the move is considered foolish and doomed to fail. It is an old Indian saying that when elephants fight trees are uprooted but this member is not a shallow-rooted tree, he is an elephant!

The 13th Asian Racing Conference, the largest meeting of international turf officials ever to be held in this country, will dominate the winter racing programme of the four Turf Authorities, the RWTC, RCIC, MRC and BTC. It will be an expensive (the present estimate is Rs 18 lakhs) but worthwhile experience and as the money will come from the internal resources of the clubs (no foreign exchange is involved) even the most money conscious turfite can have no objection. Indeed, it obviously has the approval of the Government as the President himself will be associated with at least one of its many activities.

The Conference will be held from December 1 to December 16 and will cover Bombay (December 1 to 5 and again from 15 to 16), Bangalore (6 and 7), Madras (8 and 9), Calcutta (10 and 11) and Delhi-Agra (12 to 14). Nearly 350 delegates from Australia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia/Singapore, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand, Turkey and India will participate and they will discuss such subjects as racing, pari-mutuel, management, breeding and equine medical problems.

Duleep Trophy.

East dig their own grave

ASHOK MANKAD was magnificent in both West Zone innings, Shivalkar was superb. But East Zone dug their own grave with second innings batting that, in character, was the exact opposite of the first. The turnaround on the fourth and last day of this weekend Duleep Trophy quarter-final at Ahmedabad was unbelievable as West, as good as gonners, turned the tables on East to win by seven wickets.

East grafted for almost 10 hours for 389 runs, yet wound up their second innings shop for 70 within an hour and a half. And West, who had declared 110 behind on losing nine wickets, were steered home by Mankad, who followed up his first innings 101 with 67 not out.

Shivalkar grabbed seven wickets in only 12 overs for 29 runs. Dhuraj Parsana supported him with three for five. There were some very good catches at close positions but East, perhaps psyched by the clenching fields, played desperate strokes.

They might tell you that the pitch played the havoc. Don't buy that stuff. It certainly was slow so that stroke making became difficult. Only Uday Joshi, the off-spin-

ner, got an odd one to deviate off the pitch or pop up. Left-arm Shivalkar bowled into the blockade and the batsmen did the rest. That was what made the change of fortune so hard to take in.

The dead bat defence of East Zone's first innings was the sort of self-denial that only saints might be tempted to practise. Prakash Poddar spent three hours 40 minutes over his 64, Raja Mukherjee scraped only 18 runs in the first two hours of his three-hour 49, opener Palas Nandy took 130 minutes to get his 59, and Ambar Roy laid anchor for six hours and a half and scored 127.

East Zone's progress was painful on the crowd. They laboured for 580 minutes for their 389. But it also wore out the West Zone attack. Considering their own batting limitations and the slowness of the pitch it was perhaps the right policy. For when on the second afternoon they bestirred themselves they lost four wickets in 10 overs for 14 runs, crashing from 343 for four to 357 for eight. A little of that lost ground was hurriedly made up by the tailenders going for the slug.

When Ambar Roy came in to

bat at the fall of the second wicket at 92 he looked in the mood for strokeplay. But he decided against it and followed in the strain of Poddar, who had preceded him. Now the crowd boomed. The tedium mounted and was relieved by the dashing strokeplay of Ramesh Saxena in the last 40 minutes of the day.

What a fine batsman this man Saxena is! And what a pity that he got the short shrift in the Test arena!

Not even slowness of the wicket bothered him and he laughed at the pundits of the pitches as he tore out six marvellous fours in his 40-minute 26. Then with two balls left for the close, he threw his wicket away, hooking at Kar-san Ghavli. East were 242 for four at the close.

With Saxena's dismissal the brightness went out. And the plot began all over again. East managed to add only 145 runs in 250 minutes. Even that might not have been possible had not Alok Bhat-tacharya and Dilip Doshi gone for the swing.

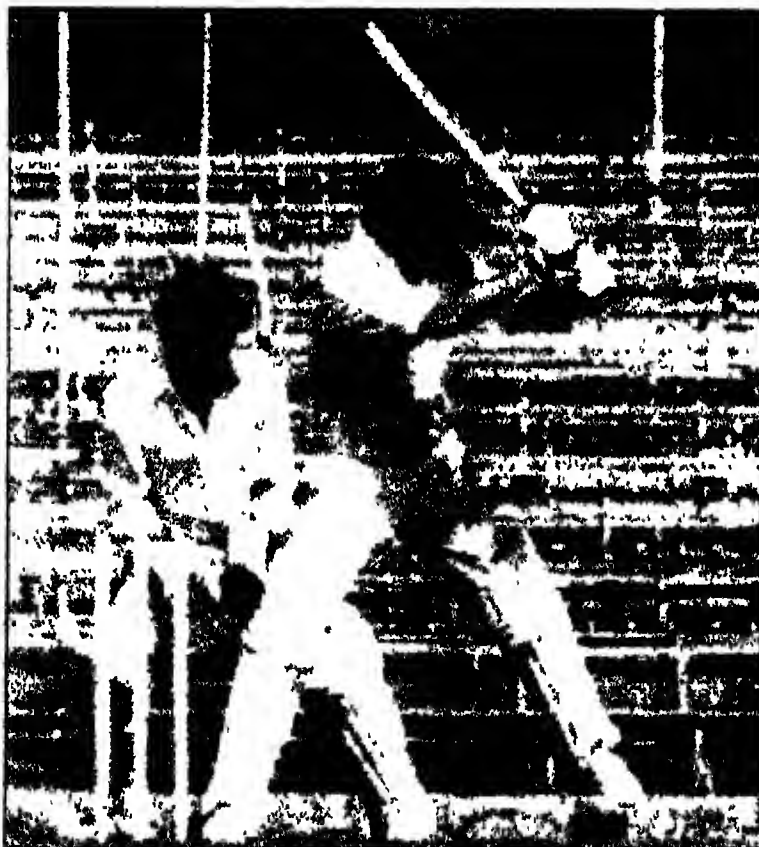
In between periods of inactivity, the left-handed Roy played some fluent drives off the backfoot, mostly on the offside, and hit 17 fours. He gave two chances, at 58 and 113, but it was around his refusal to quit that East built up their daunting total.

West began badly losing Gavaskar, Venkatar and Gaekwad fairly cheaply. The burden was heavy on Ashok Mankad. And now his experience proved invaluable. He gave a chance at 18 but nothing ruffled him and was finally gone to a brilliant piece of stumping by Sambaran Banerjee.

Had only West been as careful as East there would not have been a collapse. The wickets were gifted away. And when West had lost nine wickets for 279, still 110 behind with 25 minutes for the draw of stumps, Gavaskar did the right thing in declaring the innings: there was nothing better to do.

Mankad batted skilfully for his 101 in 228 minutes. There were only eight fours but he was always on the lookout for runs — the odd singles and twos. His form this short season has been tremendous and he stretched it into the second innings with a 67 not out that took his season's total of 516 in only four first-class matches, excluding his 80 not out in the Deodhar Trophy quarter-final.

In the 15 minutes batting left before the close of the third day, Gavaskar used a gimmick, bringing on his spinners after only one over of pace had been bowled. It did not cut much ice and both Baner-



Ashok Mankad . . in tremendous form this season

jee and Nandy helped themselves to quick runs.

We were not prepared for the final morning. And I wonder if even West had the remotest hope East had only to stay put. And hadn't they displayed that particular talent in the first innings?

Yet it happened and before we knew what was going on East had been shot out for 70, losing 10 wickets in 75 minutes. Dilip Doshi and Aloke Bhattacharya had bowled non-stop in West Zone's innings and they had received no help from the pitch. Nor did Shivalkar or Parsana so much now East had scuttled themselves.

There were alarms when West set out to get 181 runs they needed, Doshi removing both Gavaskar and Gawkwad in quick succession Vengsarkar helped Mankad in a 51 run stand and then Yajuvendra and Mankad calmly steered West through

—SW Correspondent

Rash stroke kayocs Central

ONE rash stroke took Central Zone out of the Duleep Trophy. And perhaps more than the team's fortunes were frittered away at Chandigarh Parthasarathy Sharma badly needs a string of good scores to get back into Test reckoning and yet it was he who threw away the chance to protect himself in the last match before the New Zealand tour begins.

When Sharma was last out, bowled while trying to hit Bedi out of the ground, Central Zone were just two runs behind North Zone's first innings score of 327. And Central did not have a Shivalkar to turn the tables on their opponents like West did in the quarter-final at Ahmedabad. North Zone were content to play out the rest of the period — a little over a day — and move up by virtue of that paper thin first innings lead.

Yet it would be unfair to censure Sharma too harshly. Though the team lost out in the end, Sharma had single-handedly carried on the fight long after everyone had given up any hope for Central. In the process, he did his image no harm at all as he scored a fighting century. Above all, the grim battle for the first innings lead made this a match one to remember and savour. The drama on that third afternoon had all the ingredients which makes cricket the fascinating game it is.

Bishen Singh Bedi, just confirmed as India captain, albeit for only two Tests, could hardly have ex-



Chetan Chauhan . .
another hundred

pected such a tough fight on his hands. Every pre-match analysis had tipped North as the overwhelming favourites, and after their first innings score there was much talk of the match ending prematurely. Yet in the end North could consider themselves extremely lucky. If they are to thank anyone, it is Parthasarathy Sharma. As for Bedi, well as he bowled and marshalled his attack, his image was inevitably tarnished to some extent.

But first things first. North's 327 looked good on paper, but it was made up almost entirely by two good knocks. First, the phenomenal Chetan Chauhan scored a splendid 150 to let the selectors know he is still around, much as they may try to forget him. Then came Sunder Amarnath, another batsman trying to get back in favour. Sunder played a relatively restrained knock, by his standards, of 67. The two put on 135 for the third wicket, which represented the hard core of the innings.

Chauhan himself was sixth out, after batting for 354 minutes and hitting 21 fours. On a hard, true wicket, he shed his stodgy image and revealed strokes which few had suspected he possessed. One could only rub one's eyes in disbelief as he repeatedly danced down the pitch for firm drives against the spinners.

Central started badly, losing opener Ansari with only four runs on the board. But there was no question of throwing in the towel. Rather, battle was joined immediately, and a grim, absorbing duel followed. First to blaze the trail was Anil Deshpande, who virtually collared the bowling in a scintillating knock of 53. Bedi himself was not spared, and later he admitted to a feeling of relief when Rakesh Shukla finally trapped Deshpande lbw.

But that only brought in the ever-green, incomparable Salim Durrani. There is a magic about the man which no contemporary cricketer can match. He saw two batsmen fall at the other end, and himself survived two close calls with spilled catches, but at no stage did he lose his aristocratic mien. In fact, the duel between Durrani and Bedi was the most fascinating aspect of the second day's play. Bedi, as is his wont, attacked relentlessly, feeding Durrani on the leg side. Durrani accepted the challenge, sweeping at almost every ball and yet beating the strong onside field. At the day's close, he was on 45 to Sharma's 17 in a score of 170 for four.

As the two carried on strongly the next morning, Bedi was clearly a worried man. Durrani dismissed him from the attack with two successive, languid square cuts to the fence. But Goel finally broke the stand, Durrani chopping him into Chauhan's hands in the slips. The fifth wicket stand had yielded 85 runs, and taken the score to 222.

Thereafter, every run had to be grafted painfully. Sharma was only 39 when Durrani left. Bedi came back to the attack, and bowled eight maiden overs to Hyder Ali and a suddenly subdued Sharma. Hyder and Benjamin did not last long, but Gulrez Ali and Gattani stuck on grimly for stands of 30 and 20 respectively. Still, at the fall of the ninth wicket, Sharma was 93, and the score 315 — still 12 runs behind, and last man Sardar Khan at the crease. Sardar Khan played out almost a full over, and at the other end Sharma lifted for a six to reach 99. After reaching his century the next over, he even managed to keep the strike to himself. But by then his own patience had worn thin under the intense pressure. When Bedi offered a well-flighted ball, Sharma stepped out to clutch the 155 — but missed completely to be bowled.

The inevitable post-mortems followed, but all agreed that Bedi and North Zone were given a gift of the match. Be that as it may, it was a tense, absorbing struggle all through.

—SW Correspondent

GRAND PRIX



Hunt dares the gods

JAMES HUNT is world champion—after a season in which the gods first frowned on him, then held him in suspense up to the last lap of the last race, the Japanese Grand Prix.

Appropriately, the final drama was played out in the shadow of Mount Fuji, where the gods of Shinto reward courage and determination.

And no one has needed these more than Hunt who has overcome disasters personal, political and mechanical to beat the world.

He did not win. Victory went to American Mario Andretti, in a British John Player Lotus. And when third-placed Hunt stepped out of his car at the end of 73 laps he thought he had failed.

He pulled off his black helmet with the Wellington School colours emblazoned on its side and started to complain to his team boss, Teddy Meyer, that he had lost the title because of lack of pit information. Someone shook him and told him he was the champion.

They dragged him to the victory rostrum and gave him third prize—he only needed fourth to become champion once Niki Lauda had dropped out because he had won more races.

But, he charged back to his pits and missed the lap of honour. He would not say anything until he saw it in writing.

And, after the reverses of this season, who could blame him?

The day began in gloom and heavy rain, with mighty Fuji covered in cloud that eventually crept down its lava face and seeped across the circuit which was flooded for the morning practice.

Each car left a roostertail of spray that hung in the air making visibility impossible to following drivers.

South African Jody Scheckter, whose six-wheeled Elf Tyrrell was seen aquaplaning on all four front wheels, said: "If they run a race here today there will be a disaster."

Hunt and Lauda wanted the race run as a non-championship event, but finally they lined up on the

grid for the world championship decider.

Hunt made a brilliant start and edged ahead of Andretti.

Reigning champion Lauda was 10th after one tentative lap. Halfway through the next he faltered, dropped back and trailed into the pits.

Hunt led for 61 of 73 laps, holding off all-comers. One challenge came early, from Vittorio Brambilla. He shot from eighth to second in three laps, then called into the pits to change his right front tyre.

Again he attacked, and by the 16th lap he was once again on Hunt's tail. But James was already driving like the champion; he was about to become. Halfway through the 21st lap, Brambilla drew along side.

Hunt seemed to allow him the line, but quickly chopped back on to the inside, leaving Brambilla stranded. The Italian spun and Hunt hurtled away.

But the track was drying rapidly and Hunt was trying to preserve his wet-weather tyres which, like everyone else's, were overheating.

On lap 2, Patrick Depailler of France, in the six-wheeled Elf Tyrrell, swept into the lead. Then Andretti passed Hunt.

Depailler pulled in to change a flat rear tyre and Hunt was back to second.

But on lap 68, he sped down the pit lane, skidding to a stop, his tyres in shreds. The McLaren pit took 27 seconds to change all four wheels and Hunt roared back in fifth place.

With two laps to go he managed to pass Alan Jones in the Durex Surtees and Clay Regazzoni in the second Ferrari on the same bend. Suddenly he was third, with four points in the bag, one ahead of Niki and the new champion of the world.

Hunt told me: "I didn't realise I had won the championship. I had been waving at the pits, begging them to call me in for a tyre change. No signal came and then it got so dark I couldn't see the signals. Then I had to come in. I thought I had blown it."

—DAVID BENSON

There's more to life

ANYONE who thinks Niki Lauda chickened out of the Japanese Grand Prix needs his head examined.

He showed his bravery to the world by the way he came back from his death bed to keep James Hunt at bay until the last race of the world championship.

What happened in the race—when he dropped out on the second lap—showed he had stretched himself to the limit. His mind had taken him beyond the ability of his body to heal as quickly as he is forcing it after the fiery crash in Germany in August.

He smiled bravely. His wife Marlene said she was happy he was packing his racing gear and going home to Europe.

Lauda said: "I believed I could win and I really wanted to win. But the conditions were just too dangerous. Where I was, in 10th place, I simply could not see where I was going."

"The visibility and the condition of the course made it unfit for a race. There are more important things to me in life than the world championship."

Doctors advised him not to race in the Japanese Grand Prix. They said he needed an urgent operation on his right eye, which cannot close properly after the skin grafts.



James Hunt, world champ

The road to Fuji

An analysis of the 15 steps which have taken this season's dramatic World Driver's championship battle along the tension-packed road from Brazil to Japan.

GRAND PRIX motor racing's most dramatic season ever reached its climax on an "unknown" circuit in the shadow of Japan's mighty Mount Fuji, a 90-minute drive from Tokyo.

After 15 races, only two men were still in contention for the World Driver's crown -- Britain's James Hunt with 65 points, and reigning champion Niki Lauda, of Austria, with 68 points.

Hunt had hit top form at just the right moment while Lauda was still fighting to get back to his best after his near fatal accident in the German Grand Prix in August.

The confrontation between these two men has excited public imagination as never before.

In the first half of the season it seemed that Lauda and his Ferrari were unbeatable and he kicked off with victories in Brazil then South Africa (with Hunt a mere 14 seconds behind).

Clay Regazzoni, in the second Ferrari, won at Long Beach, California, while Hunt was sidelined after a crash.

Hunt bounced back in Spain to win in his Marlboro McLaren, with Niki second -- only to be disqualified because his car was alleged to be 4 1/2 too wide and the race awarded to Lauda, who had competed with broken ribs strapped up after an accident at his home near Salzburg.

In the next two races -- Belgium and Monaco -- Lauda won at a canter. Hunt failed to score at all and it seemed all over. Niki now had a total of 51 points in the championship and Hunt just six.

South Africa's Jody Scheckter won the Swedish Grand Prix, Lauda was third and Hunt fifth.

The score -- Lauda 55 points, Hunt 8.

The next round, in the South of France, was the turning point for James. Lauda blew an engine and scored no points while Hunt collected nine for his victory.

The next day, the FIA -- world motor sport's governing body -- reinstated Hunt as winner of the Spanish Grand Prix. That meant James had scored 18 points in 24 hours, while Lauda had lost three by being downgraded from 1st to 2nd for Spain.

The score -- Lauda 52, Hunt 26. Still a long way to go, but

in Britain a fortnight later Hunt won after a first lap pile-up involving his McLaren and Regazzoni's Ferrari.

The race was restarted from scratch, Lauda was second and Ferrari protested to the FIA about the validity of Hunt's success.

The score -- Lauda 58, Hunt 35.

Getting closer, but the two-man battle almost ended in tragedy in Germany on the long and dangerous Nurburgring.

Lauda badly burned his face and lungs in a second-lap crash and almost died in a German hospital.

The race was restarted and Hunt led from start to finish to pick up another 9 points.

The score -- Lauda 58, Hunt 44.

Niki was still hospitalised when the Austrian GP came round and Hunt was firm favourite. But Bel fast's John Watson won his first ever Grand Prix, while Hunt finished fourth for just three points.

It was a great opportunity missed, but two weeks later -- on his 29th birthday -- Hunt made no mistake and won the Dutch Grand Prix in fine style after a duel with Watson. Niki was still convalescing.

The score -- Lauda 58, Hunt 56.

Incredibly, Niki came back two weeks later for the Italian Grand Prix and finished fourth to earn three vital points.

But it was a disgraceful week end of off-the-track wrangling.

On the Sunday of the race Hunt was relegated to the back of the grid after an allegation -- quite unfounded -- that his petrol had too high an octane rating. Hunt crashed trying to get into contention with the leaders.

The score -- Lauda 61, Hunt 56.

Between the Italian and Canadian Grand Prix the FIA heard the Ferrari protest over the British race.

They disqualified Hunt and placed Niki first, taking nine points from James and giving three extra points to Lauda.

The score -- Lauda 64, Hunt 47.

A grim and bitter Hunt hit back in Canada to win while Niki finished eighth and out of the points.

The score -- Lauda 64, Hunt 56.

A week later -- at Watkins Glen, US -- Hunt drove the race of his life to win again. Lauda finished third and the seemingly impossible hope that Hunt could get back into contention had become a reality.

The score -- Lauda 68, Hunt 65.

Why I like SW

WHY do I like SPORTSWEEK?

Because I can learn the 'Art of cricket' with Sir Donald Bradman, I can help my footballer friend with hints from Pele, I can fox people with questions by Hosey Mistry, I can joke Sporting Sam with my friends, I can buzz around with Busybee, I can have an intimate insight into the 'Star' of the week and discuss the versatility of a maxi-star from his mini-portrait, I can get an insight into the latest sporting news, thanks to Khalid Ansari, or Sharad Kotnis, and I can impress a lot of people with a lot of information. Besides, it teaches me to think the SPORTSWEEK way!

—Asif Ali Ansari
(Hyderabad)

A SHOK MANKAD is in terrific batting form. He must be recalled to strengthen our middle batting. We hope the selectors will not repeat their mistake.

—S. B. Chhaya
(Bombay)



IN SPITE of the continuous superb performances by Bombay left-arm spinner P. K. Shivalkar, he has not been considered at all for the Test team. Why this injustice? Can't he be selected along with Bedi? I request the selectors to consider this fine spinner against New Zealand.

—Ullhas S. Kapre
(Ahmedabad)

LION HEARTED that he is, I am sure Karsan Ghavri will do his utmost to roar back into the Indian cricket team.

—Dileep S. Phaldesai
(Kepem Goa)

INDIA has selected a young team for the Qaid-e-Azam hockey tournament at Pakistan. It is a good policy to give a chance to young players. But to include all newcomers in a team which is going to take part in an international tournament is nothing more than a gamble.

If this team flops, it will not only tarnish our image in the international hockey arena but will also lower the morale of our hockey players.

—Tony Gill
(New Delhi)

RESULTS

SportswEEK-Sahara Spot-the-Ball Contest

First Prize:
Rs. 100
in cash

2 Second Prizes:
1-litre Sahara flask
each
**7 Consolation
Prizes:**
1/2 litre
Sahara flask each



THE response to the First SportswEEK-Sahara Spot-the-Ball contest was overwhelming. As many as 7,636 entries were received but only one was able to hit the spot. Our congratulations to Miss Nasreen of Mahim, Bombay-16 for winning the first prize of Rs. 100.



The two second prizes of 1-litre Sahara flask, each, go to Mr. Mohd. Moinul Haq of Kurla, Bombay-70 and Mr. Narayan Tingalaya of Manpada Road, Thana District, who were nearer the spot.

The seven consolation prizes of 1/2 litre Sahara flask, each, go to Mr. A. Singaravel, of Madras-1, Mr. Santosh S. Nadkarni of Sanguem, Goa, Mr. Prithpal Singh, New Delhi-27, Mr. P. Gopinath, Jalakuda, Kerala, Mr. Sanjeeb Kumar Tionga, Cuttack-3, Mr. L. Sridhar, Bangalore-10 and Mr. Francis David, New Delhi-48.

We congratulate all the winners. Their prizes will be despatched within three weeks.

Meanwhile watch out for the Second SportswEEK-Sahara Spot-the-Ball contest, starting in a couple of weeks.

Only Sardon gives you more than just relief from bodyache and headache. Its unique formulation relaxes you and refreshes you while it relieves pain. That's Roche's international research working for you.

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BUZZING AROUND

by BUSYBEE

WHEN I heard that they were auditioning candidates for the post of cricket commentators for the coming series of Tests, I was among the first to go to the studio

The official in charge was very polite and offered me tea and cigarettes, before beginning the interview "Tell me," he said, "do you have Suresh Saraya's style or Raju Bhargava's?"

I said I did not know, but I tried to pick up the best from both of them

"Good," said the official "Tell me, how good are you at recalling incidents in Tests played over the last 50 years in Australia, South Africa and other parts of the world? And do you have enough anecdotes to tell listeners when particularly interesting things are happening at the wicket?"

I said I knew a few anecdotes, but if repeating them was allowed,

I could fill up enough time"

"That would be fine," said the official. "And I hope you do not spend too much time giving the scorecard and repeating unnecessary scores"

"No," I said, "I believe in giving scores only once per session of commentary and if I forget to give it then also I do not bother"

"I like that," said the official "Now I would like to know some personal details Have you ever played cricket or undergone any course on its technical aspects?"

Never, I told him I said that mine was only the layman's interest in the game

"That is exactly what we want," said the official "And I hope you are not one of those who clutters up his commentary with too many technical details like how the wicket is behaving and where the ball is pitching and how long the bounce will last"

I said that I favoured leaving all that to the experts

"Quite correct," said the official "And can you easily identify all the players on the field or do you make mistakes?"

I said I could identify Bedi and Gavaskar and Viswanath and whoever was the wicketkeeper, because of his glove, and pads, but not the other players And

I could never identify the foreigners, who looked all alike

"That is all right, you know all the important players," said the official "And what I would like to know now is, do you get excited when India is winning, or do you keep your cool?"

I said that I could not help getting excited when India was winning, as it happened so rarely.

"Yes," said the official, "I can understand that And do you think you can make forecasts as to what would happen in the next hour or the next over?"

I said that I could, just like any other commentator.

"Very good," said the official "And can you give advice, over the air, to the captain as to who he should introduce to bowl and who he should remove and when he should declare and whether he should bat first or field?"

I said I was very good at giving advice

"Excellent," said the official. "One last question When did you first decide you wanted to be a commentator?"

I said it was when people started saying we should invite Tony Corrie I felt then we Indians should prove we did not require any foreigners.

QUESTION BOX

Q WHEN and where was the first Thomas Cup Badminton Championships played? Who won the championships?

—Master V Ravi (Madras 49)

A THE inaugural tournament was held in 1948-49 and the first match saw Denmark beat Ireland, 9-0, at Copenhagen on November 2 and 3, 1948 Malaya took the title, beating the US 6-3, and Denmark, 8-1, in the Inter-Zone finals

Q WHY is the colour of the hockey ball white while red is the most stimulating colour?

—Paramjeet Thareja (Jodhpur)

A MAY be to distinguish hockey from cricket

Q COULD you please give me Farokh Engineer's performances for the Rest of the World

against England in 1970 and against Australia in 1971-72?

—Debasish Sarkar (Uttarpara)

A ENGINEER played in two matches against England and scored three runs in three innings for the unenviable average of 100 He held six catches and effected a stumping in the first match and took two catches in the second Against Australia, Engineer played four matches and aggregated 74 runs at an average of 12.33 He took eight catches and made one stumping

Q WHAT are the Test figures of Sir Len Hutton?

—Navin Bhuwalka (Calcutta).

A HUTTON played in 79 Tests In 138 innings, 15 times not out, he scored 6,971 runs at an average of 56.67. He scored 19 centuries, with 364 against Australia as his career best

Q WAS it Subash Gupta or Baloo Gupta who bowled Barrington in the first innings of the Kanpur Test against England in 1961-62?

—Devesh Guha (Kanpur)

A SUBASH GUPTA

Q COULD you tell me Vivian Richards' scores in the Bangalore Test in 1974-75?

—M Ramakanth (Hyderabad)

A CAUGHT Prasanna bowled Chandrasekhar, 4, in the first innings, and caught Abid b Chandrasekhar, 3, in the second

Glaxo meet

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The meet has been slated for February 26 and 27 at the University Stadium and will be organised by Glaxo Sports Club Medley, one of Great Britain's top hurdles in the early fifties — he held the 220 yards hurdles record — stated at a press conference that there would roughly be about 30 events, including a tug-of-war for women and a four-lap cycle race around the Oval Maidan

Entries for the meet will be accepted upto January 7

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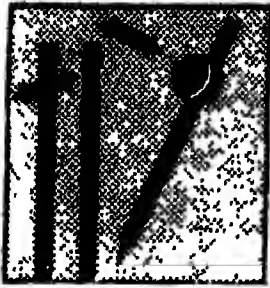
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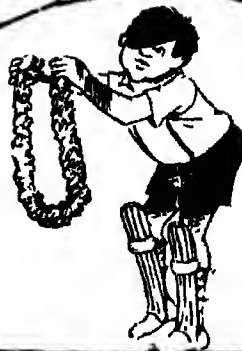
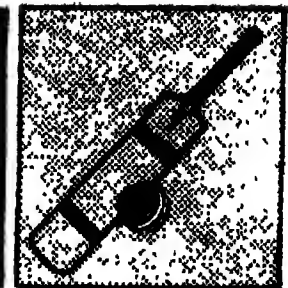
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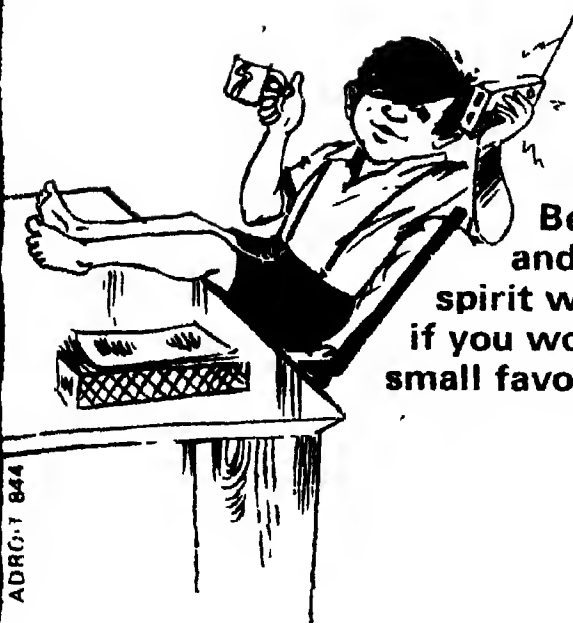
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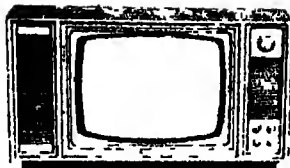
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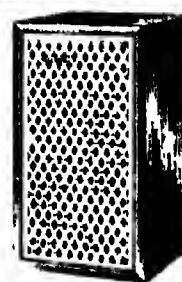
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G. BASKARAN:

A peep into the past

'Twas a day to remember

THE IDEA took shape during an informal cricket committee meeting at the Bombay Gymkhana at which Tiger Pataudi, Raj Singh, club cricket secretary Sudhir Patkar and SPORTSWEEK's Managing Editor Khalid Ansari were involved in a brain storming session in the club's lobby.

It was decided that when would be the best thing to do to celebrate the centenary?

After many deliberations and passing around of ideas, some sensible, others stupid, the thought struck, hey presto! What better way than to involve the stalwarts of the past who through their gallant exploits on the famous gymkhana ground during the Quadrangular tournament had become legends in their lifetimes, carved for themselves a niche in the history of Indian cricket.

The sword-brotherline Mushtaq Ali, keen as he was to participate, could not make it because he is involved in coaching, suspended in U.P. Nor could Vijay Badani, who had initially accepted an invitation, but had to back out because his wife is ill. Dattu Chaudhary sent a message expressing his inability to take part because the school which he and his wife run was in the midst of examinations. Chandu Chauhan had leave difficulties and Rang, Subramaniam and Jyoti. The Duleep Trophy final kept Board President N. M. Prakash Mehra in Bombay though he too was keen to take part.

The rest, almost all the great legendary names of the past were there at the historic and beautiful Bombay Gymkhana ground to celebrate the club centenary in a 'friendly' cricket match organised by SPORTSWEEK.

But, no quarter was given none asked for. The grand old men of Indian cricket played the game as hard as their creaking joints would let them and the match struck a chord that called for a full throated 'shabash'.

There was a touch of irony about the day's cricket — the old men playing the new game. And the climax came, with tension mounting, in the best traditions of limited overs cricket as the last over began. Believe me, it was gripping, the stuff fighting cricket is made of.

The setting was ideal, the weather most stuffily cool and the knowledgeable crowd enthusiastic. The toss over, we settled back into the plush sofas to watch the 'famasha'. But, as the day wore on it became obvious that there was no fooling. This was a game and it was going to be fought out.

Lala Amarnath, blessed with abundant talent,

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had on this day Polly Umrigar and Madhav Mantri to carry his SPORTSWEEK XI on their stalwart shoulders. They got the runs. Umrigar solidly maddling the ball with the ease of the years gone by, Mantri mumble and graceful hitting the day's only six.

Lala never got going with the bat, try as he did to force the pace as the overs ticked by. Yet a drive or two was positively vintage. C. S. Nayudu posed a few problems with his prodigious spin and with the others keeping to the golden rule of line and length the total was restricted to 128 in 30 overs.

The target was set and the chase began. Not to be outdone by the Umrigar-Mantri partnership, the Bombay Gymkhana XI found their heroes in B. B. Nimbalkar, broad of beam and bat, and the sprightly E. S. Mankar, who had belied his age with his alertness behind the stumps earlier in the day. They cut, pulled and drove and carried the score to within sight of victory.

Then Shute Banerjee struck. This great fast bowler, with hardly a hair on his head and minus many teeth, but with that graceful action intact, hit Nimbalkar's stumps and virtually settled the issue in favour of Lala's men. The tough old skipper of India wasn't to be beaten. He played his trump card, Polly Umrigar, ruthlessly found an ace in Shute Banerjee and deployed his held to maximum advantage to manoeuvre his side to a seven-run victory.

It was all over too soon. The old men had got infected with the enthusiasm in the air and played a hard game in the best spirit. Sadly, we missed those old timers who could not make it, but happily, Ravi Modi, Raj Singh, Vinoo Mankad, Pankaj Roy, Dicky Rutnagur, K. K. Tarapur and that fervent cricket enthusiast Dom Moraes made it. And with Berry Sarbhadikary behind the microphone it was indeed a day to be treasured. And, may we ask hopefully, "Will there be another?"

SPORTSWEEK thanks Test umpires J. Reuben and M. V. Gothoskar for sparing time to supervise the match, Pratap M. V. Chandgadakkar, BCA joint secretary, for granting permission to stage the match, the press, TV and the Films Division for their coverage, Bombay Gymkhana and particularly A. C. B. Miliat, K. B. Mehta, Sarosh Nagarvala, Sudhir Patkar and the staff for their excellent co-operation and lastly the sporting public who braved the sun to witness the giants of the past.

Cover: Glenn Turner, captain of the New Zealand cricket team. Transparency: Patrick Eagar.

Hello Glenn

...and all you Kiwis



Richard Collinge (left), Lance Cairns and John Morrisor

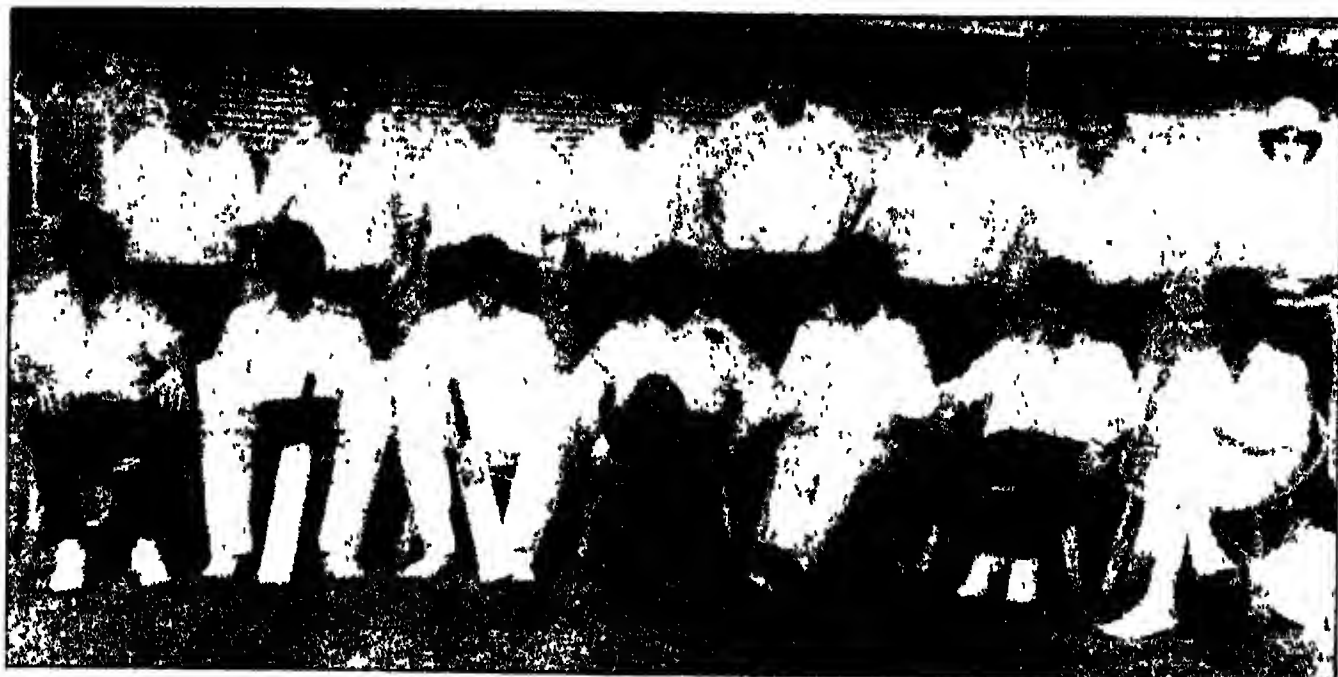


Glenn Turner, captain of the New Zealand cricket team on arrival at Santa Cruz airport



Bob Anderson and manager Murray Chapple looking in from the outside

Pics : GOPAL BHAT



The New Zealanders at the Wankhede Stadium. Absent from the pic is Rob Anderson who was unwell at the time



Getting down to work in right earnest

◀ Taking a close look at the pitch are Turner and Chapple

Greetings from the Indian Cricket Board from Ghulam Ahmed and Mama Karmakar



A feast for the cricket-lover



The Sportsweek and Bombay Gymkhana XIs that took part in the club's centenary celebration match. Standing: M. V. Gothoskar (umpire), M. N. Raju, M. Mistry, K. C. Kassam, Rusi Cooper, B. P. Kadam, Khalid Ansari, Sudhir Patkar, B. J. Mohoni, J. J. Kore, M. K. Mantri, T. K. Contractor, B. B. Nimbalkar, E. S. Maki, G. Kishanchand and J. Reuben (umpire). Sitting: K. K. Tarapur, V. Mankad, C. S. Nayudu, K. Rangnekar, Lala Amarnath, D. B. Deodhar, Bombay Gymkhana president A. C. B. Millar, Vijay Merchant, Polly Umrigar, J. Naomal, K. R. Meher-Humji and Shute Banerjee. Absent from pic: K. V. Bhandarkar, Rusi Modi, Anandji Doosa and Kali Mehta.



The toss... rivals captains Lala Amarnath (left) and Vijay Merchant



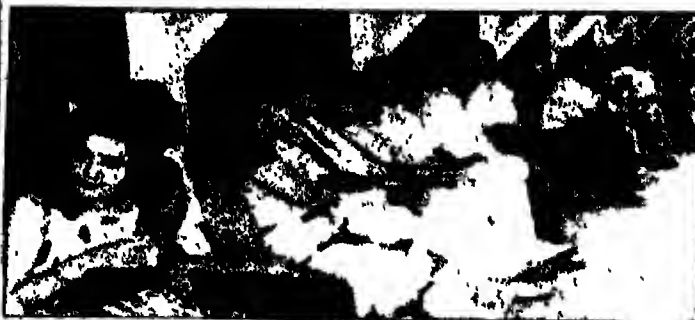
Merchant has a word with his teammates before start of play... C. S. Nayudu (left), K. K. Tarapur, B. P. Kadam, K. C. Kassam, M. K. Mantri and Shute Banerjee



The grandest of them all... Prof. D. B. Deodhar has a tip for a fan



SPORTSWEEK Managing Editor Khalid Ansari and Rusi Modi exchange views



Bombay Gymkhana members were there in large numbers

The scores:
Sportsweek's XI 127 for 5 wickets in 30 overs (P. R. Umrigar 45, M. K. Mantri 39)
Bombay Gymkhana's XI 121 for 7 wickets (E. S. Maki 42, B. B. Nimbalkar 50, Shute Banerjee 4 for 19, Umrigar 2 for 36)



The SPORTSWEEK XI with three substitutes takes the field . . from left : Shute Banerjee, R. J. Gharat, Khalid Ansari, Kali Mehta, Atul Premnarayan, Sudhir Patkar, Polly Umrigar, Lala Amarnath, and K. C. Kassam



The days best performances with the bat came from Mantri (above) and Polly Umrigar (left)

Pics : RIO
& GOPAL BHAT

Naoomal, Amarnath, Banerjee and C. S. Nayudu in a reminiscent mood

Fredun de Vitre (left), Berry Sarbhadikary and Raj Singh in the commentators box ▼



The teams

SPORTSWEEK XI: Lala Amarnath (capt.) J. Naoomal, P. R. Umrigar, M. K. Mantri, K. R. Meher-Homji, S. N. Banerjee, R. J. Gharat, K. C. Kasam, K. V. Bhandarkar, B. J. Mohoni, A. J. Dossa, M. Mistry and K. B. Mehta

BOMBAY GYMKHANA XI: Vijay Merchant (capt.) D. B. Deodhar, K. M. Rangnekar, E. S. Mankar, B. P. Kadam, C. S. Nayudu, B. B. Nimbalkar, G. Kishanchand, J. J. Kore, M. N. Rajji, T. K. Contractor and R. S. Cooper

For the autograph-hunter

Vijay Merchant

V.M. Merchant

D.B. Deodhar

D.B. Deodhar

V.M. Mankad

V.M. Mankad

G. Kishanchand

G. Kishanchand

M.K. Mantri

M.K. Mantri

K.R. Meher-Homji

K.R. Meher-Homji

K.K. Tarapor

K.K. Tarapor

P.R. Umrigar

P.R. Umrigar

B. P. Kadam

B. P. Kadam

K.C. Kassam

K.C. Kassam

R.J. Gharat

R.J. Gharat

A.J. Dossa

A.J. Dossa

L. Amarnath

L. Amarnath

J. Naomul

J. Naomul

C.S. Nayudu

C.S. Nayudu

K.M. Rangnekar

K.M. Rangnekar

K.V. Bhandarkar

K.V. Bhandarkar

B.J. Mohoni

B.J. Mohoni

R.S. Cooper

R.S. Cooper

S. Banerjee

S. Banerjee

M.N. Raiji

M.N. Raiji

E.S. Maka

E.S. Maka

T.K. Contractor

T.K. Contractor

B.B. Nimbalkar

B.B. Nimbalkar

THE ART OF CRICKET

Cutting

SOMETIMES opportunities provide themselves of picking up singles down the gully to third-man.

When a fast or medium pace bowler drops the ball a little short outside the off stump, it is quite simple to make a position similar to that for the square cut off the right foot, only this time, instead of cutting with power, get more on top of and closer to the ball, hit slightly later, and glide it wide of third slip. The pace of the ball itself will produce the desired result without any real assistance from the batsman.

It is not dangerous providing the striker is well over the ball and makes sure of hitting it down on to the ground. This is particularly necessary if a fieldsman is stationed at third slip or at backward point.

The main danger lies in a ball which unexpectedly lifts off the pitch. That is why it is so necessary to be well across and on top of the line of flight.

There are two square cuts — the one played off the front foot, the other off the back foot. Let me deal first with the cut off the front foot, which is the more beautiful and powerful but unfortunately seldom seen.

With the modern emphasis on back play so many batsmen are always retreating. They are not thinking of, nor are they ready to make, the forward cut even though the ball may warrant it. Also it requires a very bad length ball for one to have the time to judge the shot and really go into it with full power.

However, assuming the ball is sufficiently short in length, and wide of the off stump, this is one of the most thrilling shots to play.

Obviously it must be made with a more or less horizontal blade and therefore the margin of error is small.

Before the ball lands, no striker can be sure how high it will bounce, but his aim should be to hit the ball near the apex of its flight after bouncing, and that will (to the right ball) be just in front of the batting crease.

The left leg should be advanced forward and across the wicket so that it finishes with the toe directed between point and cover and the left leg carrying the full weight.

The left shoulder at the start of the swing should be pointing towards mid-off so that the maxi-

mum power can be put into the swing.

The shoulders turn only with the impetus of the hit, which is made with the full force of right hand, forearm and shoulder.

If anything, the ball should be hit slightly down and the wrists rolled over, shutting the blade of the bat as contact is made. In this way the ball will be kept on the ground and not cut into the air. Its direction should normally be in front of point and just backward of cover.

Cut really hard—don't toy with it. Make the shot a full swing and not a jerk, otherwise it may tend to shift your head position and divert the eyes from the ball.

As I suggested previously the square cut off the back foot is much more prevalent than the forward square cut. Understandably so, because first it can be played off a ball which is not so deficient in length, and secondly because the natural tendency of batsmen is to take the easy road and give themselves the maximum amount of time in which to see the ball and make the stroke.

by SIR DONALD BRADMAN

The direction of the ball is the same in both cases. So long as it is short enough and well clear of the off stump, the batsman can position himself to make a cut either just behind point or even past the gully position.

This time, of course, it is the right foot which is thrown across and the left shoulder is not responsible for so much power, although photographs reveal it is kept surprisingly far round towards the off until well after contact.

The same essentials must be applied as off the front foot. Hit slightly down on the ball as the weight is transferred to the right leg. Flex the knee slightly to assist balance. Hit firmly and freely but not jerkily.

This stroke does not command the same power as the other one. More care should be taken to see that no mistake is made and that it is carefully placed.

Somehow or other I always felt more likely to mis-hit when I attempted to cut off the back foot. It seemed more difficult to maintain balance because this time there is no left side to hit against and hold your position.

The most common fault when cutting is for the batsman to pull the front shoulder away towards the on side too soon. If that is done, the tendency is immediately to drop the right shoulder and hit under the ball rather than on top of it. Result — a catch in the slips.

One must lean into the shot. And better a traction too close to the ball than too far away. The latter will cause loss of balance and control.

A word of warning. It is extremely dangerous to try to cut off spinners if the ball is turning to any extent. Some of the Australian Test team of 1956 found this out against Jim Laker. A player should not have to be

taught such an elementary lesson in a Test match.

Because square cuts are played with an almost horizontal bat, there is a reasonable chance of getting away with a mis-hit. One on the top edge will often fly over slips and one on the bottom edge seldom causes any harm.

The ideal height for cutting is a ball slightly over stump high, but naturally one has to hit the ball wherever it is. Bounce can not be regulated by the batsman.

With the end of the blade slightly lower than the handle as the ball is struck, and the turn of the wrists, it is not difficult to cut the ball downwards, thereby eliminating the risk of a catch to point.

May I repeat. Don't toy with it — cut hard.



Cutting off the front foot

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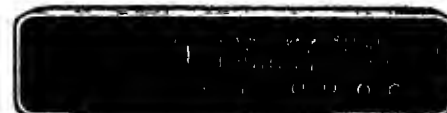
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THE BERRY SARBADHIKARY COLUMN

England's decline

NOT to go back to the glorious pre-War days, in the post-War period, after an understandably shaky start, what with the Huttons, the Comptons, the Washbrooks, the Evanses, the Cowdrys, the Mays, the Stathams, the Truemans, the Tysons, the Lakers, the Locks (to mention but a few), since then the English decline has been pathetic, to say the least.

Many theories have been trotted out for this alarming fall in the standards—most of them sensible. But if I may be permitted to say a word, edgewise, I would like to point out that the ominous signs were visible long ago.

A country's strength depends on development of its domestic resources, in England's case it was—and still is—the county championship. Who does not know that at the best of times, many counties' deficits were partially met out of Test match profits? Some popular counties also had their "supporters' clubs" which raised funds. That is how many counties kept their head above water.

But times have changed, it was apparent in the early 1960s that spectators did not throng county matches as of yore, they would not just respond to the legendary call "Waterloo was won on the playing fields of Eton!" Further, the advent of the TV, various other interests in sports were for them at the turn of a knob.

Besides, people, in the changed and changing "welfare state," did not have that much time to attend the long-drawn-out county games which generally ended in draws. In addition, the youth of England had not that fanatical zeal for watching cricket at any cost. They had other diverse attractions.

Result? Empty stands, with the turnstiles moving once in a while. Incidentally, there is an amusing incident that comes to my mind. In 1967, then MCC Assistant Secretary, Donald Carr, gave me a "medallion," entitling me access to any Press Box in England. I turned up at the Kennington Oval where Kent were playing Surrey. The Press Box was nearly full. At the sight of me, my good friend, Crawford White, accosted me: "Why have you come here—to waste your time?"

"For the 'Mild and Bitter,' Craw-

ford," I replied. The reason for his embarrassment, I had eyed, as I entered The Oval. In the Club Stands, I saw only 20 or 25 ladies and gentlemen, 60 or over, sunning themselves with newspapers in hand. The stadium was practically barren. In the next day's morning papers, however, column-size reports appeared that gave one the impression that these were accounts of a 'Test match'!

Indeed, popular support w.e. English county cricket was at an all-time low. The Indian schoolboys were on a cricket tour at the time, and were given a reception at the famous "Long Room" at Lord's. I chanced to meet Sir Alec Douglas-Home, then MCC President, and asked him if I could have a "chat" with him. Sir Alec promptly pulled out a tiny note book and said "Why not—would it suit you to have breakfast with me on Monday morning at the Roebuck House, you know where it is, on the Palace (Buckingham) Road about nine?" I readily accepted.

We covered a lot of ground on cricket, including the foreign exchange problem of international tours. Then suddenly Sir Alec moaned "Our county cricket is in a bad shape. If only a fraction of the huge crowd that laze at the Hyde Park on Sundays had only come to Lord's." He added, "Perhaps we have too much cricket."

The English—and the MCC—have been proverbially conservative. Over a decade ago, among others, Colin Cowdrey had suggested cricket on Sundays, and two-day county games, with cricketers' remuneration the same, if not more. These were, of course, turned down. Followed the county

games as usual—but hardly with any spectators. For the latter, "action" was just not there. To the MCC's credit, they made new laws, and so on. But they woke up too late.

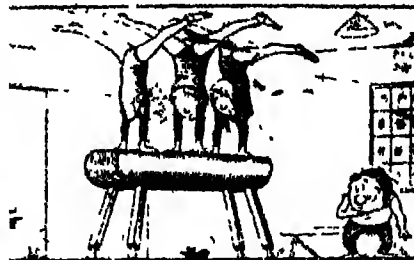
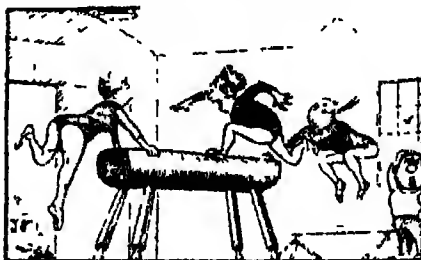
Threatened with dire county cricket financial crisis, the limited overs one-day cricket emerged, largely on Sundays, and heavily sponsored. In 1967 again after my experience at The Oval, Sir Learie Constantine and I travelled together on a Sunday to Worcester for a Rothmans-sponsored one-day game between the home county and "The Cavaliers." Sir Learie told me: "It won't be anything but a burlesque."

How like Bishen Bedi's "tama sha!" But the ground was jam-packed. Money just rolled in. To almost a man, the English critics hailed these matches as the "saviour" of English cricket. It was their bread and butter—but forgetful of the long-term harm that it would do to English cricket, which we see today. Now perhaps they are regretting it, wiser after their initial unwisdom. Once in a while such matches have their value—but not when these become a "habit."

Two other main points have been made. The influx of overseas cricketers in county teams. How many to a county—two or three, and how many counties are there in England? If anything, most of these star players from abroad should be good "models" to the English youngsters, thereby benefiting English cricket. Slow pitches, yes, are detrimental, but how did these come about, to take the steam out of opposing fast battery of bowlers?

With faster wickets, and lesser cricket, both county and Test selectors' greater faith and reliance on youthful talent in England—much fewer limited overs games—English cricket's decline will not only be arrested, but it will, before very long, be at the near-top again. Finally, with due deference to the late R. C. Robertson-Glasgow, his "philosophy" of England cricketers maturing only after the age of 30 must be totally scrapped.

SPORTING SAM by Reg Wootton



WEST ZONE were out of tune with themselves in taking the measure of East Zone in the quarter-final of the 60-over Deodhar Trophy Cricket Tournament.

That the one-day match went into a second day with 26 overs remaining and West won with only 2.5 overs to spare is evidence enough of the heavy weather they made of their target of 201 runs.

No matter that West won by eight wickets. And one-day cricket need not always be carnival stuff. But I wonder whether there was a valid argument for their ultra cautious batting.

The wicket was unusually slow and lacking in bounce. It made strokeplay not the easiest of jobs with the East Zone attack keeping the ball on the stumps most of the time.

Yet West had the batting wealth to chance their arm, if not to take the bowling by its scruff, to at least get home with a little more to spare than they did. You would have thought that both Dilip Vengsarkar and Ashok Mankad were playing to save a five-day Test.

West out of tune

Both the batsmen had been in form, Mankad with two Ranji Trophy centuries and a 94 and Vengsarkar with 90 just behind. Yet when they had steered West to victory it was with some surprise that you realised that Vengsarkar had made 85 and Mankad only five less.

There was some fluent driving by Vengsarkar and moments of aggression by Mankad but there were many more spells of inactivity which raised doubts whether West would get there at all.

West Zone's choice of Narayan Satham for Padmakar Shivalkar was some surprise. If restricting runs is the aim of the bowling side in one-day cricket, you will find that rarely has Shivalkar been expensive. If it is penetration that matters, the rich haul of wickets and consistency of Shivalkar should have won him a place.

Wasn't Dilip Doshi, East Zone's left-arm spinner, effective? In his 12 overs he gave away only 16

runs for his one wicket. And hadn't West enough of seamers in Abdul Ismail, Karsan Ghavri and Dhirsaj Parsana?

Between the four of them, the West Zone pacemen took only one wicket — that of Ramesh Saxena, by Ismail. Parsana got his one when he turned to spin.

I suppose the slowness of the pitch at the Sardar Patel Stadium set the dragging tempo of the match. Not even Ghavri despite his whippy action could get reasonable bounce off it.

And clearly Palas Nandy and Sambaran Banerjee were more intent on staying at the crease for as long as they could. Yet they scored fairly fast — 126 runs off 34 overs in just two hours.

In this match at least neither appeared like a Test prospect. Neither played freely on the legside and their scoring shots were mostly squarecuts and dives to extra cover. Surely Gopal Bose is a better offside strokemaker and his absence here due to injury was a handicap for East.

Once the stand was broken, the scoring fell. Prakash Poddar was a monument in marble, taking 103 minutes over his 28 not out. And Ramesh Saxena was out for six. That meant East could do no better than proceed at a pedestrian pace.

When Kajal Das came on to bowl in the third over of West Zone's innings for Barun Burman to change his end, he made his first ball move away to leg after pitching on the middle stump. Anshuman Gaekwad got a faint touch and Banerjee took the catch. The umpire had no doubts but Gaekwad, who hadn't scored, waited an eternity before leaving the crease.

Sunil Gavaskar made 26, taking 10 runs off three successive deliveries by Burman. He was trying to attack the bowling when Doshi got him. Gavaskar went back and across to pull, missed and was lbw.

That brought on Mankad to join Vengsarkar. A jab to the square-leg boundary and a couple of drives to longoff were the best shots and when play ended for the day West Zone were only 112 for two and 34 overs gone.

The next morning the rate often fell below three runs an over. West Zone were walking the tightrope but finally they got to the other end. And Vengsarkar's driving easy and graceful, was the best memory of a poor match.



Sambaran Banerjee caught behind by Bakrania off Parsana

South storm home

IF the East-West quarter-final in the Deodhar Trophy at Ahmedabad lacked the spice of limited-over cricket, the semi-final between West Zone and South Zone at Baroda provided plenty of it.

There was some good batting, calculated as well as aggressive, and some superb pace bowling before South, at one time four down for 13, stormed home in an exciting finish.

They won by two wickets with only 11 balls to spare chasing West Zone's total of 225 in 59 overs. The victory avenged their defeat in last year's inaugural final at Bangalore.

There was a time in this match when South Zone were down on their knees. Three wickets had gone for just one run and a fourth went at 13. At the close of the day they were 127 for five and needed 99 runs off 23 overs on the second morning, a rate of over four an over.

But they paced their scoring judiciously, often lifting it to six an over, in spite of losing wickets. Viswanath batted beautifully for 92, Jayaprakash, displaying unexpected batting prowess, made 42 and even Bharat Reddy (21 not out), skipper Venkatraghavan (18) and Jyothi Prasad (6 not out) kept on the attack before Sunil Gavaskar threw in the towel.

Jyothi Prasad it was who set the game alight with his second spell of five overs in which he claimed four West Zone wickets for 13 runs.

He bowled with real pace then and most of his victims knew nothing about the balls that beat them. On two occasions he took two wickets with successive balls to deflate West Zone's batting lineup.

From 192 for three West went crashing to 225 all out with one over to spare, Jyothi Prasad finishing with five for 43. But Jayaprakash made the opening when he broke the fourth-wicket stand of Ashok Mankad and Yajuvendra Singh when he had the latter caught at mid-on by Venkat for 48.

Yajuvendra had helped Mankad put on 87 runs off 29.2 overs. And five runs later, at 197, Mankad was gone too, bowled by Jyothi Prasad, trying to turn him to mid-wicket.

Mankad had again been the mainstay of the West Zone batting. He made 85, always picking up the odd single, off 120 balls in 140 minutes. He lasted through 11 overs and when he was gone West plunged into trouble just as they had done in the quarter-final at Ahmedabad.

The next ball, Gavaskar was bowled offstump and the batsman knew nothing of that inswinger.

At 205 Jyothi Prasad sent back Karsan Ghavri and Abdul Ismail with successive deliveries. And while Subhash Bandiwdekar batted well for 14, two run outs, again in consecutive deliveries, ended the innings.

In the morning Ramnath Parkar had blasted a quick 27 in 23 minutes with five fours but without Mankad and Yajuvendra there would have been no substance to West Zone's batting.

The crash of timber at the start of South's reply was bewildering to the eye. Roger Binny got a single off the first ball of the innings, by Ismail. With the fifth, Ismail trapped Krishnaswamy leg before. With the fourth ball of his second over Ismail got Michael Dalvi, also lbw, for no score.

Ghavri breezed into the picture. The first ball of his second over

straightened out and bowled Binny offstump. That was three down for one. In his next over Brijesh Patel played on to his wicket and South were 13 for one.

For the next 15 overs Sudhakar Rao and Viswanath batted as if nothing had happened, getting 74 in 84 minutes. Viswanath was classic. The square drive clipped the ball to the fence and when Sudhakar was out to a brilliant stumping by Bandiwdekar Jayaprakash lent Viswanath company until the close in an unbeaten stand of 50.

The next morning they stretched their partnership to 93 runs, off 24.5 overs. This time Viswanath, looking for quick runs, turned to the outside to lift his strokes. Runs trickled in steadily, often raced in.

Within nine runs of each other Jayaprakash and Viswanath left the scene, the latter having delighted the over 10,000 crowd for 178 minutes while making 92 with 12 fours.

Now Reddy and Venkat kept up the scoring and Reddy got the winning stroke, a sweep off Yajuvendra his first four, in Jyothi's company.



Karsan Ghavri . . . bowling with fire



Roger Binny . . . hooking uppishly

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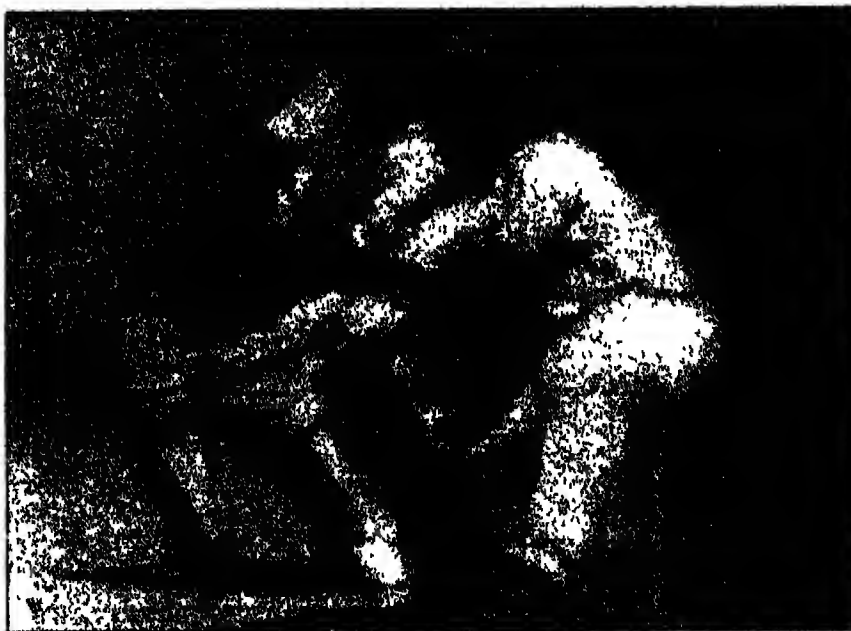
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Shocking display

In sharp contrast to the Duleep match, the Deodhar Trophy semi-final was a wash-out. North Zone treated the crowd and the organisers to a shocking display of indifference. Their entire innings folded up for a pathetic 86, and Central did not have to exert themselves at all for a seven-wicket victory.

While Central took the trouble to draft Mohammed Shahid and Sanjay Jagdale to replace Hyder Ali and Mohammed Ansari, who had to leave to take part in the inter-Railway final at Bombay, North decided to give two of their reserves a chance to play. That in itself revealed a casual attitude to the match.

There was never any attempt to build up the tempo of the innings. Instead, wild streaky shots and sudden rushes down the pitch gave the impression of a Sunday afternoon, friendly game. Mohinder Amarnath was the top-scorer with 27, and only two others, Venkat Sunderam and Hari Gidwani, reached double figures. Parthasarathy Sharma claimed six wickets for 29 runs in 113 overs, but even he must have been as surprised as everyone else at the strange turn



Vishwanath . . . masterly knock against West

of events. The innings took only 31.3 overs.

Salim Durrani did not have to bowl at all, and neither did he have to bat. Central progressed smoothly to the target, and though Bedi tried out five bowlers, and himself bowled his full quota of

12 overs, there was never any hint that North would make a fight of it. The first wicket fell at 32, and the other two at 61 and 79, with the end in sight. Parthasarathy Sharma, leading the side in the absence of Hyder, fittingly made the winning stroke, a straightfield six off Goel.

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Majid Khan

MAJID KHAN, Pakistan's opening batsman, created cricket history when he hit a century before lunch on the opening day of the third and final Test at Karachi on October 30, 1976.

So many great ones have tried and failed to achieve this rarest of rare records in Test cricket, including India's Farokh Engineer who reached 94 not out in the 1967 Madras Test against West Indies. Only three — all Australians and all against England — have done it. Victor Trumper at Manchester 1902, Charlie Macartney at Leeds in 1926, and Don Bradman also at Leeds in 1930.

Of course, seven others have also scored a century before lunch in a Test, but on subsequent days, not on the opening day, which has a special atmosphere and tension all its own. Ranji, Clem Hill, Phil Mead, Jack Hobbs, H G Owen-Smith of South Africa, Walter Hammond, and Stan McCabe.

It was when Majid Khan hit a tremendous six off Lance Cairns to take him from 63 to 69 that it was suddenly realised the coveted

record could be achieved. Majid needed then just 31 in the remaining 34 minutes to lunch, and excitement mounted to fever-pitch.

At 114 for no loss, Majid 64, Sadiq 27, three extras, Majid again lifted Cairns to the mid-wicket fence with effortless, almost lazy, nonchalance for his second sixer to add to his 14 fours at that stage. The crowd went wild. Ten runs to get in a possible two overs, the time left 9 minutes.

In the last over before lunch, Majid (98 not out in a total of 131), smashed Collinge to the ropes to bring up his hundred in 116 minutes and thus become the first batsman for 46 years to break the hoodoo of a century before lunch on the opening day of a Test.

He was caught at cover soon after lunch by Mark Burgess who, ironically enough, had dropped Majid at second slip off Richard Hadlee in the second over of the match when he was on 51. Majid scored his 112 in 130 minutes with 18 fours and 2 sixes — the fastest hundred by a Pakistani in any Test match.

The Chandra myth exploded

by P. N. SUNDARESAN

STATISTICS can lie. It can also prove us wrong. As it does in our assessment of Chandrasekhar, the spinner. We are even reluctant to speak of him as a leg-spinner because he fails to conform to the attributes we have in our mind of what constitutes a leg spinner, an orthodox leg spinner as some of us will say — the speed of the ball, the sinuous flight, and the spin.

We really rail at him in exasperation as he sprays the ball all over the pitch, and gifts away runs, when they have to be saved like a miser. Then Chandra will strike, a few swift blows that transform the game, taking India to the doorstep of victory, often, to victory itself. This fellow is a freak we say.

I meet Chandra and corner him with the charge that he is an expensive bowler. "Look at the figures of all our spinners and say that again; you will find that I am no more expensive than any of them." This is Chandra's retort.

And the figures back him. Kapu Nadkarni 88 wickets, ave 29.07, Chandra 158, ave 29.35, Subash Gupte 149, ave 29.54, Prasanna 163, ave

29.58, Bedi 168, ave 29.82, Vinoo Mankad 162, 32.72, Venkatraghavan 98, 33.19. Only Nadkarni is more economical than Chandra, the 'profligate'.

Of the present quartet — himself, Bedi, Prasanna and Venkatraghavan, Chandra is the least expensive. But he has the most striking power. In 51 innings, Chandra has taken 158 wickets, the average per innings is 39 wickets, Prasanna comes next with 25 per innings (66 innings, 163 wickets), Bedi has 24 per innings (69 innings, 168 wickets); Venkatraghavan has 21 per innings (48 innings, 98 wickets).

To me Chandra is the most human of the four spinners. The others go about their task of "killing" the batsman methodically, prizing open their "defences" with cunning, guileful flight and spin. Chandra has no mind for all these subtleties, he bowls a number of loose balls so that the batsman can have his fill of enjoyment.

Then he produces an amazing one that baffles him and brings him down. One is unable to roar his appreciation because there is a gulp in the

throat. Chandra is a bowler who can move us to tears as much as he can drive us to shout at him in exasperation.



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Jayant wins

KABAD JAYANT (Karnataka), as the seeding committee had fancied, emerged the best in the Binny's Recreation Club's first annual open table tennis tournament to claim the G K Devarajulu Trophy besides the cash prize of Rs 1,000.

In the final, he scored a fairly comfortable win over Madras' R Sekhar. Jayant did not have to be at his brilliant best. In fact, he was erratic. But Sekhar was more erratic.

Jayant, the seasoned player that he is, dominated play for the major part of the match. His serves had Sekhar guessing often, and he scored many points with telling shots. Sekhar was flashy. He had Jayant beaten often with his whip-lash forehand shots, but he was far from consistent in his general play.

A plucky player, Sekhar, down by two games and trailing 13-17 in the third, fought back to make it one game to two. He even led 9-3 in the fourth game -- only to lose the game and match to an opponent who remained cool and composed throughout.

Jayant had emerged unbeaten in his group in the quarter-final league. Sekhar had lost to R Ravi in his group but had brought off a thrilling victory over G Jagannath, the second seed, after being



K Jayant

down 14-19 in the deciding game, to make the final. Jagannath had a better games won to games lost quotient -- 8-5 compared to Sekhar's 7-5 -- but international precedent was quoted to support the third seeded player's qualification.

The Railways' pair Jagannath and B Vishu claimed the men's doubles title, beating Sekhar and R Ramachandran 24-22, 12-21, 16-21, 21-15, 21-16.

The women's singles final proved a local affair in which the top-seeded P Vatsala beat off the spirited challenge of R Vidya to

win 21-7, 21-17, 21-19 for the top prize of Rs 750.

Binny's R C has decided to make this prize money tourney an annual affair, despite the fact that the response from the leading players to this tourney was far from encouraging. T D Ranga Ramanujan, TTFI president, in his message had expressed: "I have no doubt the tournament will attract most of the nationally ranked players. With the Indian nationals just a few weeks off I am sure, this tournament will provide the necessary competitive experience to the players."

But contrary to his expectations, only a few leading players thought it fit to take part in this tourney. Why? Was the prize money offered not attractive enough? Or did they expect better terms like air tickets, five-star hotel accommodation etc? The TTFI, which takes one-fourth of the total prize money offered, should look into these things and ensure the participation of at least a good number of leading players in such tourneys.

It will be bad for well intended tournaments like Binny's if leading lights skip them, giving some excuse or the other, when they are not satisfied with the terms. If such a tendency is allowed to continue, then table tennis will become a business. At the same time, to make it worthwhile for the players to take part in such tourneys, the TTFI would do well to ask the organisers to raise the prize money to some extent.

The Binny's tourney was well organised. Praise should go especially to M H Krishnaswamy, organising secretary, an ardent lover of the game and himself a good player.

P Unnikrishnan, Director, Binny Ltd, presided on the final day and Mrs Unnikrishnan gave away the prizes.

Results of other finals. Junior singles: T Ramkumar (Karnataka) bt Nagarajan (Mylapore Gymkhana) 21-17, 21-16, 21-17.

Sub-junior singles: V Chandramouli bt N R Bhuvanath 23-21, 21-16, 16-21, 17-21, 21-12.

Veterans' singles: V S Murugesu bt G Dasarathan 21-17, 21-13, 21-17.

Non-medallists' singles: V S Soundara Parthiban bt P R Valmikinathan 21-11, 21-11, 21-13.

Non-medallists' doubles: H R Vatman and Sudhakar bt G Amutham and Shanker 21-16, 17-21, 20-22, 23-21, 21-17.

—SW Correspondent



P. Vatsala, women's singles winner receives her prize from Mrs. Unnikrishnan, wife of Binny's Director



Sportraits

mini-portraits of maxi-stars...

ANY journalist or broadcaster faced with the eternal problem of identification at a distance, possibly in poor light and hampered by the recent advent of white 'Aunt Ethel' sunhats, knows well the sincere gratitude felt for a player whose demeanour and mannerisms make him unmistakable.

Take Derek Randall, born 25 years ago at Retford in Nottinghamshire. Feet well turned outwards and slightly anthropoid arms dangling slackly, he walks with the rolling, ambling gait of a self-indulgent sailor returning from too good a leave, but the analogy will not quite hold for there is always apparent the perky vivacity that bespeaks his love of fielding and when the walk bursts with incredible suddenness into a spring, only the hunter is apparent. His sheer pace over 15 to 20 yards is immense and, in footballing terms, his speed off the mark

slowly. The positive approach coupled with his extreme speed of foot and a pleasing range of attacking shots have helped him to prosper since his spectacular debut with Notts in 1972. The venue was Newark and the opposition Essex, with their attack spear-headed by John Lever and Keith Boyce; Derek, coming in at No 8 after the early Notts batting had wilted, casually helped himself to 78 runs in an innings that occupied only 140 minutes and contained five sixes and four fours.

Despite this exhilarating opening to a career that has begun to ripen pleasingly, there has been and (dare one venture) still is the suspicion that he may be essentially a slaughterer of indifferent bowling, hesitant to the point of ineffectiveness when faced with the best, especially top-class fast bowling.

This view was apparently confirmed, for example, by his obvious

DEREK RANDALL

by MIKE STEVENSON

is reminiscent of a Barry John or a George Best.

Almost exclusively a cover point, Randall is certainly one of the very best in the business, and only one reservation may nudge him out of the highest category. He is still a more effective deterrent to would-be run-stealers than he is an executioner of the overbold. Generally speaking batsmen do not run when the ball is struck into his territory, but when they do, one has the suspicion that Randall still misses the sticks usually with his victim yards from home, rather more often than, say, a Clive Lloyd or a Colin Bland.

His batting (despite or perhaps because of awareness of selectorial favour since his appearance for a Young England XI v the West Indians at Old Trafford in 1973) has matured much more

discomfort when facing Lancashire's Peter Lever in hostile mood a couple of seasons ago at Trent Bridge. Once Derek ended up lying flat on his back and generally there was precious little evidence of calm, disciplined technique in the face of Lever's taxing pace.

Happily his impressive showing in the Prudential Trophy matches against West Indies has largely silenced this sort of criticism but the echoes remain. Derek Randall is a cricketer whose manifest abundance of nervous energy is more characteristic of a racehorse than any labouring animal, transparently as a fielder and less obtrusively as a batsman. Randall's cricket possesses the seeds of greatness; they have ripened well. Let us hope that the harvest is commensurate with his talent.

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Anbar Roy, who scored a century, slams Shivalkar to the cover boundary . . . East v West



Ashok Mankad cuts Venkat to the fence during his innings of 58 . . . West v South

Pics : S

Roger Binny, South's opening batsman, falls lbw to Ghavri





Anshuman Gaekwad bowled by Chandrasekhar . . West v South



Sunil Gavaskar, who scored a double century, hooks powerfully . . West v South

SHAH

Michael Dalvi caught behind off Gavara . . South v West



TROPHY

FOOTBALL, thank heavens, is at last finding its feet in Ahmedabad

The newly constituted Ahmedabad District Football Association deserves more than a word of praise for getting the game to go on its inaugural league, the first in many years, has entered the final phase — the super league for which the top three teams in each of the two groups have qualified.

There were 18 entries, something that was a dream until last year, and there were more teams wanting to take part but had to be turned down because their entries came too late.

But the tremendous response from teams and the crowd has been a thing to savour and from the next year the ADFA plans to have two divisions with the first 10 to 12 teams of this year's league competing for the senior league and the remaining playing in the first division with new entrants.

The ADFA has had to face more difficulties than had at one time seemed likely. There have not been

enough volunteers to shoulder the burdens that go with organisation and things had to be started from scratch.

There were also not enough referees who were informed of the latest in rules. But M G Suvarna, a former Bombay referee and now the secretary of the ADFA, opened classes. Several active players have now turned into more than passable whistlers and although their involvement still puts the ADFA in a spot whenever there are top-of-the-table matches a beginning has been at least made.

Another difficulty that the ADFA has faced is the lack of ground. The city police authorities put at its disposal its parade ground which is unfenced and created difficulties for players, reducing the playing area with crowd encroachments and being vulnerable to invasions by the spectators at the slightest excuse.

But the ADFA has now succeeded in getting the enclosed Police Stadium at a fee of Rs 25 a day

and the first day of paid admission at the ridiculous rate of 10 paise drew a crowd of around 4,000. Stupendous for this town!

There was one walkout and two incidents in which the supporters of teams threatened players. But all this is past, although one refereeing incident will undoubtedly leave a scar.

That was when the Youngmen-Kerala Sports match ended in a draw. Youngmen protested that referee Babaji had played the game short but the referee himself denied that charge on the spot. The next day, however, when he submitted his report, the referee admitted that he had indeed played the game six minutes short.

That was a jolt for everyone. But luckily those involved took it in easy strides and there is yet hope that football may after all become the No 1 sport of the town after being neglected for over a decade.

—SW Correspondent



University of Oxford

RHODES SCHOLARSHIPS awarded for study at the University of Oxford, England, from October 1977. Candidates (single) with first class degrees and other academic and extra-curricular achievements, particularly in sports, must be below 25 years on October 1 1977. Particulars from Secretary, Rhodes Scholarships, St Stephen's College, Delhi-110 007

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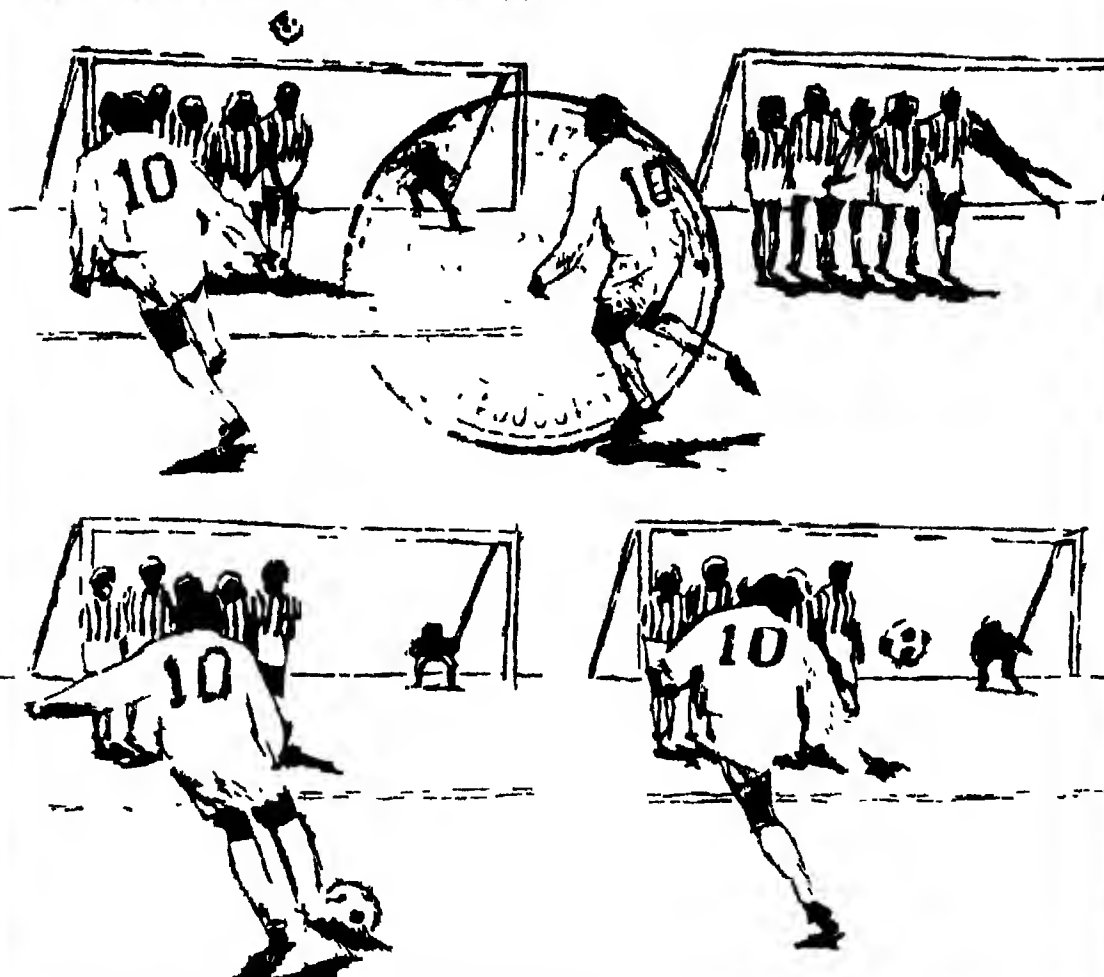
Pele: The Master and His Method

PENALTIES AND FREE-KICKS

Adaptation: Ken Taylor

Confusion

Things are not so straightforward on a direct free-kick just outside the penalty area. There is a wall of defenders blocking most of the goal. To beat them, the ball has to be curved. One way is over their heads. Another is around the side.



And a bit of rehearsed fakery will keep the opponents guessing when more than one player runs at the ball: which one will take the kick? Confusion can be a weapon.

How much do you know?

by JOSELY MISTRY

- 1 How many players are required for a kho kho match?
- 2 In freestyle wrestling should all holds be executed with the head and back within the boundaries of the mat?
- 3 If in badminton a player serves out of turn, and he wins the rally, what is the umpire's decision?
- 4 In the long horse vault can the gymnast choose the distance of the springboard from the apparatus?

As a football referee would you start the match if you find the goal cross bar at a height of 2.40 metres?

At the commencement of the first game how many serves does the first team have in ball badminton?

Can a two hands snatch hit be passed if the buttock touches the ground during squat?

ANSWERS

1 Two teams each of nine players 2 Yes 3 It shall be a let, provided that such let be claimed or allowed before the succeeding service is delivered 4 Yes 5 No They should be 2.44 metres above the ground 6 Only three hands to serve, while the other team shall have all hands to serve, No

Can a two hands snatch hit be passed if the buttock touches the ground during squat?

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by RAILBIRD

WITH the winter meetings at the four principal racing centres in the country getting into full stride now is the time to take stock of what the sport means to the country and the individual and what impact it has on the community.

Racing is a multi-crore industry and just as it cannot flourish without the horse, around whom it is built, it cannot be viable without betting. The two are inter-related, for even if there is ghost racing at every centre there must be at least one centre where horses race so that betting is possible.

Thousands of people are gainfully employed in racing, and crores of rupees flow into government and civic exchequers as a result of it. In addition, deserving charities are enriched by sizeable amounts of money which come from charity race days which are held from time to time at every centre.

These are all public funds in the sense that it is a direct contribution by the betting public which is channelised through the Tote and the bookmakers ring. Thus, although the greybeards, in their wisdom, maintain that the horse is the most important of what goes to make racing possible it is indisputable that it is the punter who keeps it alive and kicking.

It follows as night follows day that everything possible must be done to ensure that the punter, by and large, has every amenity made possible to him and that he is satisfied in his own mind that he is getting a run for his money. In simple terms this means that the supervision must be such as to impress on the mind of even the most suspicious racegoer that all is above board and is fair.

Generally speaking it is so although it must be conceded that there is a small percentage of manipulation. This must be so, for wherever there is money to be made there will be unscrupulous people ready, willing and able to make it by underhand means. As there is no mechanical way, and there never will be one, of assessing a performance all conclusions which are arrived at are based on

personal opinions, which, if course, are backed up by the video tape of each race which is available to the authorities.

It is in this sphere of control that there is some doubt that all is not fair and that personal loyalties and/or prejudices influence Stewards, who are the final arbiters of what is acceptable and what is not on a racecourse, in their findings.

Given the will and the common sense the basis for these doubts can be eliminated. It is accepted practice that a Steward does not sit in on an enquiry concerning a horse in which he has an interest. However, Stewards do sit in on enquiries concerning those professionals who either train or ride for them and when, however dispassionate they may be, they rule in favour of the said professionals there is room for the general pub-

lic to feel that they have been influenced by association. This must not be so.

Bombay has programmed a 28-day meeting, which includes two charity race days. The total stakes offered will be over Rs 50 lakhs and this is a record for Western India.

Because of the acceptance in Bombay of betting on the races run in Bangalore, Bombay will race on Sundays until April when Saturdays will also be included, as the Bangalore and Calcutta (betting is accepted here on the races run in Bombay) seasons will have ended.

The best riding talent in the country will be in Bombay where golden boy Vasant Shinde will ride for Aziz Mahmoud, Richard Allard,

last year's champion in Calcutta, for S M Shah, former Calcutta champion Nelson Reuben for D N Adenwalla, Jagdish for champion trainer R R Bhatnagar, Ernest Allard for B K Jagad, who trains for leading owners Mr and Mrs R M Gokuldas and Mr Mulraj D Gokuldas, Abhaysingh for D P Pandole and Budhsingh for Major V M Lad. George McGrath, the Irish ace, will again come out to assist Pyramus and Ernie Johnson, who made an immediate impact in his first season in Bombay and further endeared himself to railbirds, including this one, in subsequent visits, is expected to be brought out to ride principally for horses trained by Uttamsingh.

The Bangalore Stewards are big owners and, as such, will seldom be able to do for which they have been chosen. But what prevents a Steward standing down when the actions of his trainer and/or jockey are being enquired into? One cannot advance a single reasonable argument why he should not stand down and the time has come for this convention to be observed.

It is not enough that justice is done, it must seem to be done, and as this is a universally accepted edict race officials should fall in line. With the elections to some of the clubs coming up in the near future, now is the time for all those who are in a position to influence the decisions of race clubs to support and have implemented this eminently sensible and totally just idea. There is no time for prevarication.

Madras has arranged a bumper 43-day winter meeting which will be the biggest of the four and will also provide the most stake money as the stakes have been raised by about 30 per cent on what was

The Bombay season is scheduled to commence on November 14 and end on April 17, 1977. The principal races for horses of the Classics age are: H M Melita Gold Cup (November 14), Moti Gold Cup (November 28), 1,000 Guineas (December 12), 2,000 Guineas (December 19), Ruia Gold Cup (January 9), Oaks (January 23), Derby (January 30). The main races for the new crop are: India Cup (December 5), Sir J J (VI) Butt Gold Cup (December 26), Ahmed I Rahimtoola Gold Cup (January 9), Peggy Banarwalla Gold Cup (February 6), March Handicap (March 6). The older horses will get a chance to earn big money in the A. C. Ardesir Gold Cup (December 5), Felipe Stakes (February 6) and RWIIC Invitational Cup (February 27).



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won't he?
will he?
won't he?
will he?
won't he?
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TENNIS NOTES

Metreveli coming

ALEXANDER METREVELI, who was men's singles champion when the Asian tennis championships were held in Bangalore in the winter of 1967-68, will be there again for the Grand Prix meet starting on November 22. His was one of the 16 confirmed entries announced last month by Indian Open tournament director A. B. Esver, but by and large the list does not look particularly exciting.

The Soviet star — "I'm Georgian, not Russian" — who was 32 on November 2, was runner-up at Wimbledon in 1973, besides being a quarter-finalist there in 1972 and 1974, and reached the semis of the 1972 French Open. But his game has dropped off a bit in the past two years and right now he is not even in the top fifty of the Association of Tennis Professionals' computer rankings. In fact, as per the computer reading at the beginning of October, just three of the Bangalore entry are so placed: Aussie Ross Case (25), Indian Open title-holder Vijay Amritraj (28) and Australian Open champion Mark Edmondson (45).

At Bombay two years ago only three of the men were in the ATP's list 50, compared to five at New Delhi in '73 and eight at Calcutta last November. There is still time, however, for some reasonably well-ranked players to decide to play at Bangalore. The computer rankings of the other 13 entries are as follows:

Metreveli 60, Geoff Masters 65, Ray Ruffels (like Case and Master, with Davis Cup experience at the Cubbon Park) 71, Kim Warwick 81, Mike Ester 94, Ismael el Shafel 99, Tim Gullikson 104, Bob Carmichael 113, Steve Turner 114, Sashi Menon 141, Russell Simpson 143, John Whitlinger 145 and Anand Amritraj 159.

Of course, the computer is up-dated every fortnight (November 8 is a reading date) and there will be some change in the rankings, on which are based entries as well as seedings. Menon, for one, will move up on the strength of his quarter-final berth in the Australian Indoors at Sydney.

Davis Cup team

THE Davis Cup contest in the capital will be held in the week following the Grand Prix event — in early December. One expects the India team will be named sometime before. Vijay Amritraj, Menon and Anand Amritraj are automatic choices, but assum-

ing a non-playing captain, who will be the fourth man? Last season the place went to Chiradip Mukerjee, who in Europe this summer was beaten by both Ramesh Krishnan and Shankar Krishnan. India should win clearly in Delhi, but one must not forget that in Tokyo last December Jun Kamiwazumi did beat Vijay Amritraj.

The Cup-tie dates have forced a postponement of the Nationals. The grass-court meet at the Bombay Gymkhana will now be held in the week of December 13, with the All-India hard-court championships at Hyderabad retaining its December 6-12 dates.

Juniors' camp

THE October 4-17 annual juniors' camp at the Patiala Institute of Sports was this time attended by about fifty boys and girls. National coach Akhtar Ali named Maharashtra's 17-year-old Nandan Bal as the player who would come on most in the next few months. Bal won the boys' 18 singles in the competitions played on the last three days of the camp. Hyderabad's S. K. Bhupathy won the boys-16, Coimbatore's Sadashivan the boys-14, and Christabelle Fernandes of Bombay the girls' event.

Among others Ali mentioned as promising were Dhanasekhar, Vasudevan (a 14-year six-footer from Tamil Nadu) and the Bengal quartet of T. S. Bhandari, Rico Piperno, P. Crasto and Jayant Rikhye, besides Gita Kumar.

Indian Open referee

GUJARAT's urbane S. Mashruwala has been named referee for the 4th Indian Open in succession to the late Jimmy Mehta. People who knew Mehta much better than I did have described Indian tennis' great loss in the air-crash at Bombay aptly enough. On hearing the news, I was reminded of an evening in Lucknow in January 1975, the day before the New Zealand Davis Cup tie began. I was talking to press colleague M. V. G. Apparao (now AILFA treasurer) when Mehta came up and said: "You know, anywhere I go, I always take at least my toothbrush and my racket. And would you believe it, this time I've forgotten my toothbrush. I've to go and buy a new one now!"

And that just shows, one can assert, what tennis meant to him.



Alexander Metreveli

THOUGH the 1977 Grand Prix schedule may be run without an overall sponsor, its programme will cover the full calendar year. First on the list of tournaments is a \$75,000 meet in Sydney starting December 26, to be followed by the Australian Open in Melbourne, and then indoor tournaments in the USA (distinct from WCT meets). This year-long spindrive, if continued, could give Madras a chance to host a GP meet at an appropriate time, but the future of the Indian Open depends on how things turn out at Bangalore.

—SUBROTO SARKAR

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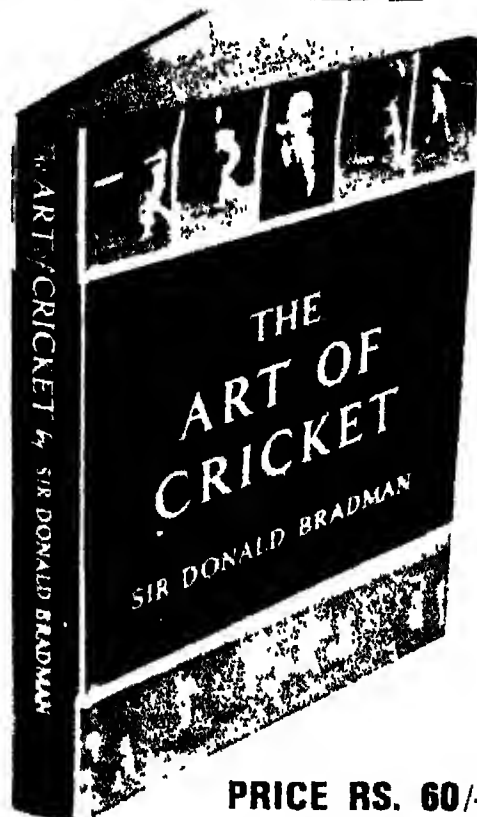
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Master Plan for Sport

Encouragement

NOW that the government is making sports compulsory in schools, it will be the responsibility of school authorities to maintain it properly. In every school there must be a separate sports department, one for indoor games and the other for outdoor games. When a student attains the age of eight or nine, he or she must be asked to select his/her own game. From that moment that particular master must keep an eye on the student.

After every four or five months he must undergo a medical check-up. Our physical instructors are drawing very low salaries, when compared to the teachers of other departments. Their salaries should be raised. This will encourage them a lot.

The most important thing, which I think is encouragement, should come both at school and at home. Sports equipment must be made available to children in school itself. The schools should not expect students to bring their own.

Every year the state should hold a sports meet in which every school should send its competitors. A state committee must be there to watch the games. It should be their duty to see that each school maintains a certain standard. If any school fails to keep to that standard, an enquiry should be conducted.

The committee should then select the state schools team to represent the State at an Indian schools meet which is also to be held yearly. This level meets should be given more importance and as incentives attractive certificates with cash instead of medals and trophies should be given to the competitors. This will help them and encourage them as well. The children must be taught the latest techniques and methods with the help of audio visual tapes and film strips.

—Tajammul Ali Mirza
(Hyderabad)

Rethinking on PT

THE schemes in existence for the development of physical education and sport in the country deserve some rethinking if fruitful results are to be acquired.

Physical education is the milk, coaching is the cream. The fundamental is that without milk there can be no cream.

The meagre attention of the government on physical education is the cause for the decline in sport. Unless the government exe-

cutes a well-thought-out programme, sport will never reach the optimum level.

The development of physical education and sport must be placed under two categories — school and college. In these levels there must be scientifically trained leaders appointed in the field of physical education in the ratio of 1:100.

The successful execution of the schemes, will also depend on the facilities available. "Physical education" should also be made an examination subject.

As the aim of physical education is the allround development of the personality, it should start from the Kindergarten level.

In the secondary school level, there should be a vigilant watch on the proper development of 'physical fitness' with special emphasis on strength, stamina and speed.

—N. Parameswara Ram
(Eluru)

The motivating factor

PSYCHOLOGY: According to Froebel 'Play is the natural unfolding of germinal leaves of childhood'. The famous Swiss scientist Karl Grov also says that instinct is a very motivating factor in play. Therefore it is the duty of parents or guardians to motivate the child into sports by taking them to witness games.

PREPARATION: At the age of four a child goes to school and plays different types of games. From Std V it must be given opportunities to go in for at least three types of major games and participate in athletics for two years. In Std VII at the age of 10-11 years, the child must not be allowed to take part in more than one game so that in the next four years it has to master only one game and athletics. Five more years at college till the age of 20 years should perfect the child.

INSTRUCTORS: Sports must be made compulsory in schools and colleges. Every school and college must have a Physical Education Director, trained coaches in different types of games and athletics just like subject teachers. Apart from the usual PT periods the instructors must devote minimum two hours outside working time for training.

FACILITIES: Every school must have audio visual aids on sports. Where facilities are available movies on sports should be exhibited. The government must provide facilities to exhibit movies on certain fundamental techniques of games, which must be prepared by NIS Patiala or Bangalore. During school vacations a closed camp

should be held for selected under 14 years school players at state level. All the college students taking part at inter-collegiate level should get marks for final examination in the case of NSS and NCC. More coverage should be given to sports in the local newspapers, radio, television and so on. Every documentary film should demonstrate at least one skill of a particular game in its different teaching stages. Every state must have a sports training institute with modern equipment like video-tape recorder and cine radiographic technique where players in different games should be enrolled and after completion, appointed in schools and colleges as instructors.

PLAN OF EXECUTION: All India tournaments must be conducted for under 14 years, 16 years, 18 years, apart from the existing National Championships. Birth certificates for eligibility must be produced from Registrar of Births and Deaths to keep check on cheating. Any state fielding overage players must be suspended for 3 years or fine upto Rs. 5,000. All state teams participating at National level should have a camp for minimum 45 days.

TRAINING: Players under 14 years and 16 years selected after the all-India tournament should be made to play exhibition matches against different states in India after two months coaching to gain match experience. The junior team selected after the under 18 years all-India tournament should be groomed for 4 years and sent abroad to play against other nations. These trainees should be given diplomas, degrees to work as director or coaches in schools and colleges for those particular games. All the national teams participating at inter-national level must have a camp of minimum eight months.

ORGANISATION: Only those who have played or organised particular types of games should be allowed to be the office-bearers of different associations and federations. Sports goods should be controlled by the government and sold at controlled rates.

NATIONAL SCHEME: Every student in school and college must contribute one rupee every year for development and upkeep of different types of playing pitches.

INCENTIVES: The government must make provision to give jobs for merited sportsmen as in the case of scheduled castes and tribes as well as pension for those who become disabled while playing or training for state/country from sports relief fund.

—S. J. Redento de Souza
(Mapusa)

RECORD BOOK

THE years immediately preceding the Olympic Games usually project at least one "unknown" athlete into the spotlight of fame. It was so in 1930 when a girl swimmer flashed into the world headlines — and into the record books.

She was Helene Madison, of Seattle, Washington. In one year she became the "female Johnny Weissmuller" of American swimming.

It began on March 6, 1930, when she set up new world records for 150 yards and 200 metres — 1 minute 40.4 seconds for 150 yards and 2 minutes 34.6 seconds for 200 metres.

A week later the new freestyle star collected more records in the sunshine of Miami. On March 13 she bettered the world time for 100 yards with a new record of 1 minute 0.8 seconds. Next day she

Six new marks in 12 days

swam 100 metres in 1 minute 8 seconds — another world best.

On March 16 she smashed the former record for 500 yards (6 mins 16.4 secs) and two days later added yet another freestyle world record by swimming 220 yards in 2 minutes 35 seconds. Six world records in 12 days.

Helene Madison must have been a fantastic swimmer for later that year — in June and July 1930 — swimming in her home town of Seattle, she achieved new world records for 300 yards, 300 metres, 400 yards, 400 metres, 880 yards and 1 mile. By that time she held 12 world freestyle records, an incredible performance. In the same year she gained every US women's freestyle championship from 100

yards to 1 mile, all in new American record times.

Helene Madison's name appears on the Olympic honours list, too. In 1932, at Los Angeles, she took the gold medals in the women's 100 and 400 metres freestyle events, and helped three of her American colleagues to win the 400 metres relay gold medals.

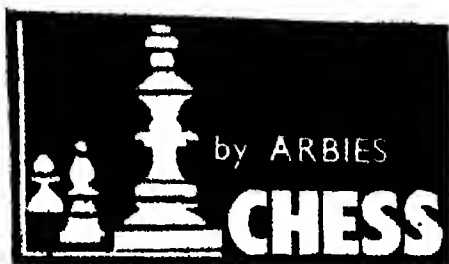
Little more was heard of Helene Madison following those Olympic Games, and all her records were later smashed, but her name will never be forgotten in American swimming circles—particularly for that amazing feat of capturing six world records in 12 days in March 1930.

—DAVID HENDERSON

STATISTICIANS CORNER

by B. B. MAMA

	T	I	NO	R	HS	Aveg	100's	50's	Ct.	St	B	M	R	W	Avgc	5wI	10wM	Best
VISWANATH, G. R.																		
v England	11	22	2	693	113	34.65	1	4	2	—	12	—	10	0	—	—	—	—
v Australia	4	8	1	334	137	47.71	1	2	3	—	12	—	8	0	—	—	—	—
v West Indies	12	21	1	958	139	47.90	2	5	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
v New Zealand	3	6	1	197	83	39.40	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	30	57	5	2182	139	41.96	4	13	19	—	24	—	18	0	—	—	—	—
ENGINEER, F. M.																		
v England	18	33	3	1113	121	37.10	1	8	23	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
v Australia	9	18	—	449	89	25.94	—	2	11	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
v West Indies	9	17	—	465	109	27.35	1	3	14	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
v New Zealand	10	19	—	584	90	30.73	—	3	18	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	46	87	3	2611	121	31.08	2	16	66	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
CHAVRI, K.																		
v West Indies	3	6	1	87	35*	17.40	—	—	—	—	444	10	316	9	35.11	—	—	4.140
ARID ALI, S.																		
v England	10	18	1	307	71	16.05	—	2	10	—	1447	41	671	14	47.92	—	—	4.64
v Australia	5	10	—	304	81	30.40	—	2	4	—	710	8	368	8	46.00	1	—	6.55
v West Indies	7	11	2	181	50*	20.11	—	1	9	—	1190	31	683	12	56.91	—	—	3.70
v New Zealand	7	14	—	226	63	16.14	—	1	10	—	817	39	258	13	19.84	—	—	4.26
	29	53	3	1018	81	20.36	—	6	33	—	4164	119	1980	47	42.12	1	—	6.55
MANKAD, A. V.																		
v England	4	8	—	99	43	12.37	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
v Australia	5	10	—	357	97	35.70	—	4	—	—	11	1	10	—	—	—	—	—
v West Indies	4	8	1	219	53*	31.28	—	1	3	—	30	—	33	—	—	—	—	—
v New Zealand	2	4	1	65	29	21.66	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	15	30	—	740	97	26.42	—	7	—	—	41	—	43	—	—	—	—	—



In most defences to Queen's Pawn opening, Black's strategy is based on obtaining a Queen side Pawn majority. If he can do while keeping White's centre Pawns under control, eventually he can create a winning Queen side passed Pawn.

In this game White's centre Pawns are blocked and his King side attack does not materialise. In the end the Black QNP decides the issue.

NIMZO INDIAN DEFENCE

White: Portisch

Black: Sanguinetti

(World Inter Zonal II 1976)

1 PQ4 NKB 2 POK, PK3 3 NQB3 BN5 4 PK3, PB4 BQ3 00 6 NB3, PQ4 00, PON3 (a) 8 BPAP, KPAP 9 NK5, (b) BN2 10 NK2, (c) PB 11 BR2, QNQ2 12 PB4, PQN4 (d) 13 BQ2, BxB 11



by JIMMY MEHTA

HOW did you make out with last week's hand?

A 865

Q 8732

Q 62

5

N

S

KQ 103

A 9

A 105

10987

Contract "4 spades" after a trump lead, won in hand capturing East's knave. The heart Ace fetches West's king.

Had you known the heart situation earlier you might have played for two club ruffs in dummy, hoping

QxB, NN3, 15 NN3, PQR4 16 POR3, NB1! (e) 17 NB5, NK2 18. RB3? (f) NK5 19 BxN, PxP 20. NxNch, QxN 21 R(3)B1, PB3 22 NN4, BQ4! (g) 23 PB5, PN5 24 NB2, KRB1 25 PxP, PxP 26. KxR, RxB 27. NR3, PB6! (h) 28 PxP, RR7 29 QB1, PN6 30 PB4, RQB7 31 QR1, BxP 32 QR8ch, QB1 33 QR4, QB1 (i) 34. RN1, KR1! 35 NB4, BN1 36 RKB1, QB6 White resigns

(a) 7 ... NB3 and 7 ... PxBP are more common alternatives.

(b) 9 PxP, PxP giving Black hanging Pawns can lead to wild play as in Gligoric-Keres, Candidates Tournament 1959 10 NK2, BN5 11. PCN3, NB3 12 BN2, PQ5 13 PxP, BxN 14 PxB, NxP 15 N.N, P.xN 16 BxP, NR4 17 KR1, BQ3 18 RKN1, QR5 19 PB4! threatening 20 QxN! After 9 BQ2 MCO gives 9 BN5 10 POR3, KBxN 11 P.xR, PB5 12 BK2 NB3 13 NK5, BxB 14 QxB, QQ3 as good for Black (Gligoric-Keres CT, 1959)

(c) 10 BQ2, NB3 11 PQR3, BxN 12 BxB is preferable

(d) Black has mobilised his Q side Pawn majority without allowing White any action in the centre. White's King side attacking plans turn out to be too slow

(e) This Knight manoeuvre in

ing for a diamond position to produce your tenth trick

However, on a single dummy basis the play has been correct thus far. Prospects are bleak unless the diamond king is on-side and you should proceed on the assumption that this is so. Your correct play is a low diamond at trick three. West wins and continues trumps—as good a defence as any—now draw the third trump yourself and run the nine of hearts; you have the time and entries to dummy to set up a heart winner with a ruffing finesse—your entries being a club ruff and the diamond Queen. If West ducks the diamond King or fails to continue trumps you can switch over to ruffing clubs in dummy.

It is meaningless to return a heart at trick three, praying for West to ruff on air from an initial holding of three trumps. Even if West makes this mistake you will still need the diamond King on-side.

If alternatively you play a club at trick three the defence can spike your guns by giving you a ruff in dummy immediately, extracting an entry from dummy before it can be used for heart establishment. You might try changing horses in midstream and attempt club ruffs in dummy but communication problems will deny you the tenth trick. Try it and see.

tended to challenge White's Knight on KB5, is well thought out.

(f) Better seems 18 QK2 to answer 18 NK5 by 19 BxN, PxP 20. QN4. The Rook move loses valuable time and White has to exchange Knights allowing favourable development of Black's Queen.

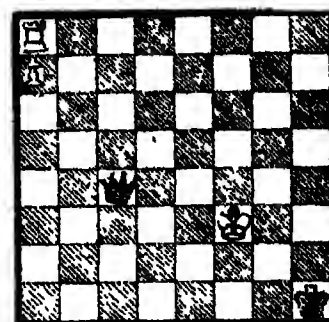
(g) The Bishop is centralised occupying a fine blockade square.

(h) Creating a powerful passed QNP just in the nick of time as White threatens NB4 to get rid of the Bishop.

(i) Stronger than 33 ... BxR 34 QxPch, RB5 35 KxB, QB1 36. NB2 or NB4 when White can put up some resistance.

END GAME

Bv Kantorovich



White to play and win

The 'full hand'

A 865
Q 8732
Q 62
5

N

972

K

W

E

K 874

A Q 432

J 4

J 10654

J 93

K J 6

S

K Q 103

A 9

A 105

10987

Now for a defensive problem:

xx
Q
J ax
K Q 10xxx

N

K Q Jxx

E xxx

xxx

N S Vulnerable

Bidding

S	W	N	E
1 NT.	2 F	3 C	3 S
Pass	Pass	4 C	Pass
5 C			

1 NT = 15-17 points.

You are East and the opening lead is the heart king, followed by the spade ten. Plan the defence.



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Kiwis—a good batting side

by LALA AMARNATH

D'ON'T go by the New Zealanders' performances in Pakistan. They are capable of much better, and now that they have got a little practice they are bound to improve.

They went to Pakistan at the start of a new home season without any match practice. Thus we cannot afford to underestimate them.

The Kiwis have a fair amount of batting strength though their bowling, away from their green home wickets, may not have as telling an effect as they did against India in New Zealand earlier this year.

The Indian wickets are altogether different from those in New Zealand — ours are slower, theirs greenish with a lot of bounce — and as such I feel it will not be easy to reach a decision in all the three Tests.

On turning wickets, India stands a good chance to beat the tourists but on easy-paced wickets the tourists should be able to score heavily. I predict that Madras may be the only place where a decision is possible.

The Indian team for the first Test has been selected solely on our performances in New Zealand and the West Indies. The selectors have rightly placed their faith on players who performed creditably, on the twin tour and on those who showed dedication and application.

The first six batsmen selected themselves on their performances. Only Ashok Mankad, who has been compiling runs like a ma-



Chetan Chauhan . . . back in the Test squad

chine this season, comes in place of Vengsarai, who must be considered unlucky and will now have to wait till the first Test is over.

I will be surprised if Chetan Chauhan, a prolific scorer this season, is not preferred to Anshuman Gaekwad. Of course, Gaekwad showed marked improvement on the twin tour and showed guts and determination to stay at the wicket, but he seems to have become over-defensive. Chauhan will have to make good his past failures in Test cricket.

Prasanna, I feel, is still a force to reckon with. He has always howled well against New Zealand both in 1969 and earlier in 1967-68.



Bharat Reddy . . . reserve wicketkeeper

at home and in 1976 in New Zealand. His immaculate length and change of pace and flight make him a very attacking bowler.

All in all India will definitely have an edge over New Zealand as our wickets are capable of foxing the best of batsmen.

We will do better here —Turner

“We will do a lot better in India than we did in Pakistan,” said Glenn Turner, the captain of the New Zealand team.

We were short of practice as our home season does not commence till December,” he added. “Now most of our players have gained form and we expect to do well on this leg of the tour.”

Both Turner and manager Murray Chapple were frank and free when they talked to sportscritches at the Oberoi Sheraton.

“I am always keen to tour India. You know I have been here before and I have happy memories of those tours. Besides, I have close relations here and cricket-wise, I am confident we will play well,” Turner said.

Turner and Chapple, both said that they would sorely miss the three or four experienced players who were unable to make the tour for one reason or other. However, they added, “the new players in the team are not that young. They

contd on p 41



New Zealand skipper Glenn Turner and manager Murray Chapple talk to sportscritches G. K. Menon (left) and Sharad Kotnis

Kiwis force a draw

THE New Zealanders forced a fighting draw on November 4 in the third and final Test at Karachi under tremendous pressure from a confident Pakistan striving to make a clean sweep of the series.

It would have been a travesty of justice if a strange operational lapse towards the end, for which neither the umpires nor the Pakistani players could really be blamed, had led to a New Zealand defeat. The Kiwis had done enough in this match not to deserve to lose, though the Pakistanis had perhaps done better to deserve a third successive win in the rubber.

With about 15 minutes to go before the countdown for the mandatory 15 eight-ball overs in the final hour, the new ball was claimed and taken at 197 for 5 — two overs too early! The official scoreboard showed that 65 overs had been completed. Actually, it later transpired that only 63 overs had been bowled.

It would not have mattered if Andrew Roberts, who was playing for more than 3½ hours with patience, application and responsibility, had not been unfortunately bowled by Sikandar Bakht in his first over with the new ball. It was a crucial and vital dismissal, since it exposed the lower-order batsmen to Pakistan's highly efficient fast bowlers with just over an hour left.

The Test reached a tense crisis point when Warren Lees, the hero

of the first innings, also was dismissed, with ten mandatory eight-ball overs and three tail-end wickets left, but the rearguard firmly held their ground.

During the drinks interval, the acting captain John Parker came out on the field of play to have a word with umpire Shakoor Rana, and it was later reported that Manager Murray Chapple was to lodge an official protest with the Pakistan Cricket Board for this serious lapse in utilising the new ball before it became due.

by A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Test began with the luck of the toss again going Pakistan's way for the third time in the series. Majid began the proceedings with a dazzling pyrotechnical display of power-hitting which fetched him the coveted honour of a century before lunch. He scored 108 out of 141 for no loss at the lunch break, and went on to make 112 in 130 minutes with 2 sixes and 18 fours.

Pakistan rammed home the advantage with another sterling knock from the powerful blade of the most exciting batting discovery of the season, the wonder-boy Javed Miandad who hammered 206 with an awesome array of strokes, including 29 fours and 2 sixes in 410 minutes. He added 252 for the fourth wicket with captain Mushtaq who scored 107 — his second hundred in consecutive innings. Javed Miandad received a



Majid Khan . . . century before lunch



Warren Lees . . . maiden century



Richard Hadlee . . . career best knock

special cash award of Rs 5,000 from the Karachi Cricket Association for his magnificent all-round performances in the series, in which he has aggregated an imposing 504 runs in only five innings, once not out, for a Bradman-like average of 126.

When New Zealand batted, it appeared to be a disappointing replay of their previous two Tests, and it was virtually curtains for them at 104 for 5, Imran claiming 3 for 21 in 7 overs. Pakistan's 565 seemed a distant mirage. The post-lunch and post-tea sessions on the third day saw a remarkable transformation, as the last five wickets added another 364 to bring the Kiwis within 97 of the Pak total.

This splendid recovery was triggered by wicket-keeper Warren Lees who scored 152 — his maiden first class hundred — and Richard Hadlee who contributed a career best 86 in a huge seventh wicket stand of 186 — a New Zealand record.



Javed Miandad . . . classic double century

About an hour before the close on the third day, fast bowler Imran Khan was warned by umpire Shujauddin for bowling frequent bouncers at Richard Hadlee "a non-recognised batsman" and when he continued to do so, Imran was ordered to be taken off and forbidden to bowl for the rest of the innings. This is the first implementation of the ICC ruling on intimidatory bowling, and all credit to Pakistan's umpires for enforcing it firmly and fearlessly against a Pakistani fast bowler.

Pakistan went for quick runs in the steadily accelerating second innings, and no prizes are offered for guessing who unleashed the Niagara of runs. Yes, "the three M's" were again in vigorous action — Majid, Miandad, Mushtaq. After

yet another explosive fifty from Majid, the scoring slackened alarmingly. Seized with a sense of urgency during the tea-break, the Pakistani score suddenly spurted at a violent rate as Miandad and Mushtaq contributed most of the 170 runs which came in the two-hour session between tea and close of play on the fourth day.

New Zealand, on the hunt for 388 to win in six hours, started off like a bomb. John Morrison smote Imran for 24 in one over — 2 sixes, 2 fours and 2 twos! The 50 came up in 35 minutes. It was too good to last. Suddenly, three wickets fell for three runs — two of them to "That Man" Miandad. What a valuable asset he is to Pakistan! His fielding too is electrifying, his turn of speed in chas-

from p 39

are, in fact, experienced players and have gained tremendous from the tour of Pakistan."

Turner said that he was disappointed with the performance of his team in Pakistan. They encountered the kind of wicket where it was vital to win the toss which he could not do even once.

"Actually our batting let us down. But by the time we came to Karachi we had some good performances, particularly from wicket-keeper-batsman Warren Lees as we are confident of doing very well here."

Both manager and skipper said that they were satisfied with umpiring in Pakistan. Whatever mistakes that were made were genuine and the umpires did not show any bias. The mistakes, according to them, affected both sides. They felt that Javed Miandad was an outstanding young batsman who should do well for years to come.

Commentators

RADIO and television commentary on the cricket Test series against New Zealand will be broadcast simultaneously in English and Hindi. The panel of commentators is:

BOMBAY:

Radio-English: Anant Setalvad, Damodar Mudaliar, Dicky Rutnagi and Alan Richards. Expert: Vija Merchant.

Hindi: Jasdev Singh, R. Malhotra and M. M. Manjul.

KANPUR:

Radio-English: Swaranjit Singh, Narottam Puri, Sunil Gujral and Alan Richards. Expert: G. S. Ramchand.

Hindi: Jasdev Singh, Ravi Chaturvedi and Ramesh Shrivastava.

MADRAS:

Radio-English: Balu Alaganar, V. Ramamurthy, Anupam Gulati and Alan Richards. Expert: M. A. K. Pataudi.

Hindi: Manish Dev, R. Malhotra and Prem Kumar.

TELEVISION:

Bombay: Commander S. Varma (English) and Abhay Chaturvedi (Hindi). Expert: Lala Amarnath.

Kanpur: Cdr. S. Varma (English) and Joga Rao (Hindi). Expert: Lala Amarnath.

Madras: Ashish Ray (English) and Jasdev Singh (Hindi). Expert: Mushtaq Ali.

ing and retrieving quite breath-taking to watch, his unerring throw from the deep rocketing at full speed straight into the 'keeper's' gloves from a distance of 80 to 90 yards.

For the rest of the day, New Zealand fought gamely and grimly for survival.

Hou topples the King

THE monarch of the team events, Liem Swie King, was dethroned after a short four-day reign when he was defeated by Hou Chia-chang in the men's singles final of the fourth Asian Badminton Confederation championships in Hyderabad.

Playing to a set plan, and having a tactical superiority, Chia-chang turned the tide in his favour to such an extent that to the lay observer he made Liem Swie King appear to be completely out of form.

But this was not so to students of the game because the victor slowed the pace of the game so much that Liem had no oppor-

tunity to bring into effect his deadly smash or his delicate play at the net.

Probably had King won the first game, which went over the extra points, he would have regained his

by **NANDU NATEKAR**

lost confidence, which he seemed to have lost midway in the opening game.

Though it was not smooth sailing for Chang in the opening stanza, King appeared to lose confidence in the next game despite the scores running level till five

all. This was not expected from a player of his calibre.

Whereas Chang continued to play to a plan and with tremendous consistency. This was one factor that saw Chang in complete command. He also bided his time and brought in his smash only when he had caught King on the wrong foot, and that to on King's body and not on the flanks.

It was evident from this encounter that speed and power is not everything in badminton but consistency, strokeplay and strategy can encounter this prevalent trend.

It was a very successful debut for the Chinese in the tournament for they won six titles of the slaved nine. This was largely due to the general fitness of the players and their business-like approach. This was also evident amongst the Indonesians and the Japanese.

During the matches I always saw two Chinese taking notes while the players were in play and a movie cameraman was continuously filming not only his players but other leading players too. This assisted them in planning out their strategy against those players.

It was sad that India did not take this golden opportunity and filmed the proceedings of the tournament which would have gone a long way towards bettering the techniques of our players.

Easily the best junior on view during the tournament was China's Chen Tien lung. The other to catch the eye was Indonesia's Rudy Dendang.

Normally the juniors emulate their seniors, and how lucky these two must be to have such great players to pattern their games on. Both have moulded their game in the present trend of a mixture of power and craft. However, they have rough edges, but these will be ironed out with experience.

The fast pace that Chen set during the entire duration of the match was unbelievable, that too against an adversary who relishes the same type of game.

In doubles the game has become faster, it is pure power and speed with little room for strategy. Faster reflexes were at its peak resulting in quick interception of the shuttle.

With the backhand services more in vogue, the players invariably tended to serve above the



Hou Chia-chang, the new Asian champ

waist, and it was surprising that they were not faulted by the service judges. This is not a healthy trend especially when the juniors will follow suit.

There was a feast of badminton and it should go a long way in educating our players, especially the younger lot who can model their game on the present trends.

But this will need a lot more than just observation. Individual effort, dedication and personal sacrifice is needed more than a stint in short-term coaching camps.

India's juniors fare well

by HOSEY MISTRY

PRAKASH PADUKONE, Devinder Anuja, Syed Modi and Vikram Singh were the stars of the boys' event.

It was only a consolation to see our juniors. Modi and Vikram Singh gave stellar performances and figure in the semi-finals of the boys' event.

Both boys were backed by international experience. Modi was not overawed by the occasion and demonstrated a powerful approach. They played with a harmonious blend of speed, power and craft a trend currently in vogue.

Modi was seen at his best in the quarter-final encounter against Indonesia's Puhay Yantano but was rained by the ultimate winner Chen Tien Lung in the next round. Chen was the master and gave Modi little scope to contribute his earlier form.



The Summat Ade Chandra, Soemar Sonu (manager), Liem Swie King and Tjun-Tjun, all members of the Indonesian team with the Tunku Abdul Rahman Gold Cup

Receiving a walk-over in his first two rounds, Vikram Singh was unlucky not to have match practice till his semi-final tie against Indonesia's Rudy Dendeng. Vikram fought back gallantly but lack of experience and loss of concentration at crucial stages failed him.

The only other Indian to make the semi-final grade was national champion Prakash Padukone. He continued his good work but found a different proposition in Indonesia's Liem Swie King in the penultimate round. He was seen to advantage in the quarter-final when he ousted the joint-top seed Ban did Jayen from Thailand.

Though taken to the full distance, Prakash's ultimate victory was never in doubt. Prakash controlled the game beautifully and kept the favourite on the move and bided his time to bring off his half-smash, his forte, at the right moment.

In the next round King gave

little opportunity to the Indian champion King was so fast on his feet and his reflexes that he did not even permit Prakash to serve comfortably.

Devinder Anuja, who had performed listlessly in the team events, redeemed his reputation by an encouraging performance. In the quarter-final he defended so well that he got the better of eighth seed James Selvaraj from Malaysia. As for the India's performances in the women's singles and the paired events, the less said the better.

Our women do not pack that power and speed to encounter their adversaries. They sometimes hold an edge in court-craft, but that is not enough to encounter their much speedier and powerful rivals. In the paired events, our players do not have the speed nor the quick reflexes to become effective combinations.



As part of the Bombay Gymkhana's centenary celebrations, the club's managing and balloting committees XI (right) played a friendly cricket match against the Sports Journalists of Bombay XI (left). A stylish half century by Sudhir Patkar was the highlight of the club's narrow 17-run victory.

The home side rattled up 198 runs in the stipulated 25 overs. SIAB thanks to some hard-hitting by M R Waingankar (52) and Khalid Ansari (60) replied with 181 for five wickets.

BOMBAY GYM 198 for four (Sudhir Patkar 55 (rtd.), A. D. Joshi 50 (rtd.), Krishna Kumar 46 (rtd.) and K. Mehta (42). **SJAB** 181 for five (M R Waingankar 52 (rtd.), and Khalid Ansari 50 (rtd.).

MAIL BAG

WHY was Dilip Vengsarkar dropped from the team selected for first Test against New Zealand? Even Clive Lloyd says he is a player of class. Strange are the ways of the selectors! Chetan Chauhan has proved that he is only a Ranji Trophy player. Pity the chairman of the selection committee. He just cannot spare time to look after the business of cricket.

— Dilip D. Thakur (Bombay)

IT was disgusting to read that the 14 names for the first test against the New Zealanders were finalised without the Chairman of the Selection Committee.

D. Gopinath. It has become a habit with him to either reach at the last moment or remain absent, thereby keeping everyone in a state of anxiety. It's time he resigned.

— U. A. Mitta (Bombay)

EAST ZONE has been neglected again. Nor even a single player has been chosen for the first Test.

— Mangesh Dudwadkar (Bombay)

HATS off to Padmakar Shivalkar for turning up with such amazing performances. It is a pity

that he has no chance to get into the Test team. Even though the selectors cannot be blamed for it, Indian cricket owes him a debt of gratitude. In recognition of his services, I wish the selectors honour him by including him at least for the last Test of this season.

— B. Shivashankar (Bangalore)

BISHEN SINGH BEDI (25.9.1946, Amritsar), with sun and moon in Virgo, has Jupiter in 9th in transit up to December 8, 1976, Saturn in 11th, Rahu in 2nd and Ketu in 8th in transit.

On the other hand, Glenn Turner has sun in Taurus and moon in Cancer. In comparison, Bedi's chart is favourable and I see no reason why he should not be captain for the third Test also.

Jupiter is transiting over sun of Turner, Rahu in 6th and Saturn in 3rd house.

A great and grim tussle between the bat and the ball will be witnessed throughout the series. Bedi's free will should turn fate and smile on him on December 1, 1976. It will be an interesting and absorbing series.

— Dr. Chandrasekhar Thakur



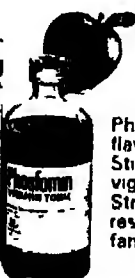
Cricket Board President Ram Prakash Mehra (right) addressed members of the Sports Journalists Association of Bombay at the Press Club. He said the Board was trying its best to encourage fast bowlers and spot young talent.

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BUZZING AROUND

by BUSYBEE

ON the morning of the opening Test against New Zealand, my house was filled with friends, neighbours, relations, etc., all of them sitting in front of the TV set and waiting for the programme to start. And, on the dot, I switched on the set and found it was out of order.

There was commotion and the children started crying and my uncle, who was occupying the best chair in the room, said "I knew it, you have got a cheap old set. I should have gone somewhere else."

The wife told everybody not to worry. She told them that I was very good at fixing up the set and she told me to go ahead and fix it.

So I turned the set around, unscrewed the back and looked at the wires and tubes inside.

My neighbour said: "No point in

your fiddling around with things you know nothing about. Best ring up the service people and ask them to send somebody immediately."

My friend, who had once read an article on TV repairs in a magazine, said: "We will have to dismantle everything and then put it together again. They must have given you some literature when you bought the set. Let me have a look at it."

The wife whispered in my ear: "I have never been so embarrassed in my life. All our friends waiting here to see the Test."

So I rang up the repair people and they said they could not send anybody while cricket was on as all their men were at the stadium watching the game.

Meanwhile, more guests were arriving to see the Test on my TV set and everybody was most agitated. My cousin, who is a great cricket fan, said "You should first make sure that your set is working and then call people to watch it."

My set had been completely dismantled by now and all the parts heaped in an untidy pile on the floor and my uncle was saying "I have always told you, whatever you buy, go in for the

best. But you will never listen to me."

And the children were crying again and saying that they would like to be taken to a film if they could not see it on TV.

By this time, it must have been lunch-time at the stadium and my neighbour said "You better repair it soon as play is always interesting after lunch on the first day and we simply cannot afford to miss it."

I was ringing up all the TV repair shops in town and the staff of all of them seemed to have gone to the stadium to see the Test.

The wife wanted me to ask the people upstairs to take in our guests to see the match on their set. I said they must be having enough guests of their own and it would not look nice.

The cricket fan was saying "Thousands of sets to choose from and I had to come to your house."

And just about the time lunch was over and game had restarted at the stadium, my neighbour from upstairs came and asked me, "Please, could my guests come to your house. Something has happened to my TV set and it is not working."

Q WHY has the Board of Control appointed a different manager for each of the three Test matches against New Zealand?

— Raghunath (Bangalore)

A JUST to give Alagannan, Umrigar and Ramchand another chance and perhaps find out who among them is the best.

Q HAS any team scored over 1,000 runs in an innings?

— Ujjal Roy
(Neamalpur, Burdwan)

A VICTORIA hold the world record with 1,107 runs against New South Wales at Melbourne in 1926-27.

Q HOW many runs have been scored by Ross Edwards in Tests? What is the highest score and against whom?

— Satrugna Mishra
(Balangir, Orissa)

A EDWARDS has scored 918 runs in 16 Tests at an average of 38.25. His highest is 170 not out against England.

Q A batsman kneels down to sweep, misses and the ball hits him on the chest. Will he be given out lb.w?

— Susanta Mohanty (Calcutta-19)

QUESTION



A YES, provided all the provisions of the lb.w law are met. "The striker is out 'leg before wicket' if with any part of his person except his hand," says the law. The word "hand" used in this Law should be interpreted as the hand holding the bat, according to the Notes.

Q WHAT is the full name of MCC?

— Asifuddin H Baxi
(Mandvi, Kutch)

A MARYLEBONE Cricket Club.

Q I doubt whether the National Institute of Sports, Patiala, can help in the promotion of sport in India. What is your opinion?

— G N Handiekar
(Indore, MP)

A I give it the benefit of the doubt.

Q WHAT is the loop drive in table tennis? How is it executed?

— R Rajnarayanan
(Karalkudi, Tamil Nadu)

A THE loop drive is a stroke which helps impart tremendous topspin on the ball. It is executed with a brushing action of the racket against the ball. The stroke is played much like a topspin drive, except that the bat is brought up from a much lower level and the accent is on the brushing action.

Q HAS Satish Mohan given up billiards or is he busy with personal matters?

— Chandra Bhanu Gupta
(Calcutta)

A NO, he has migrated to Australia.

Q WHAT is the meaning of pentathlon and decathlon?

— Sunil Kujju (Nagpur)

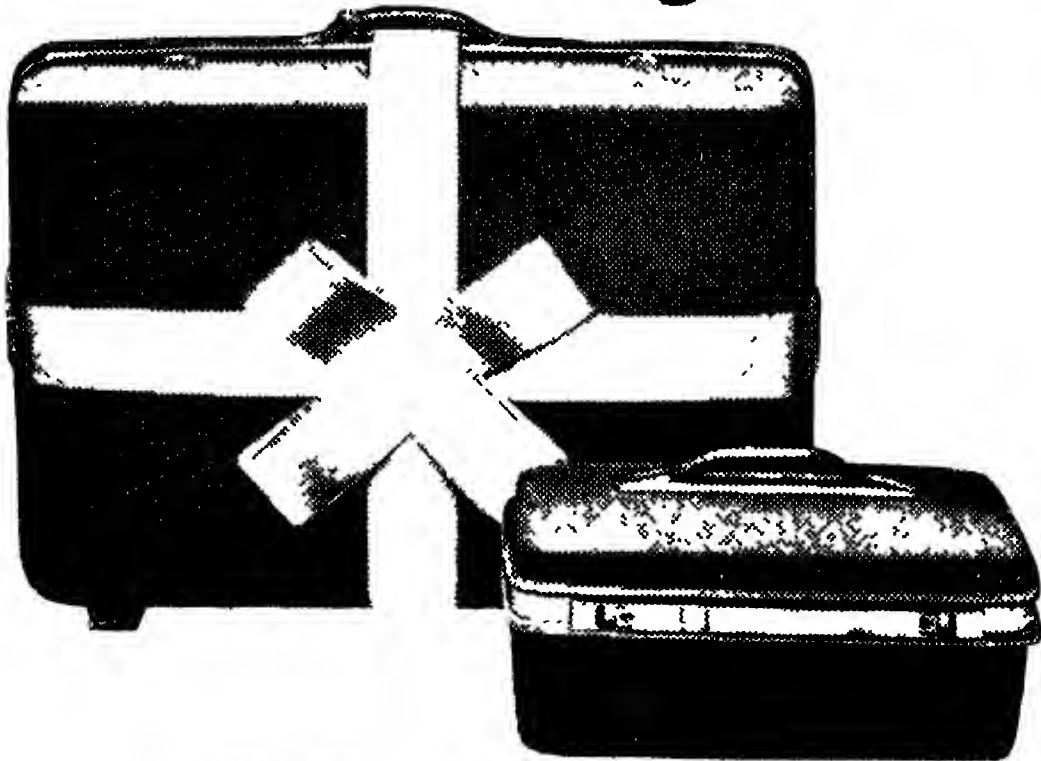
A THE pentathlon consists of five events and the decathlon of ten.

Q WHO has scored the most centuries in Test cricket?

— Chhagan K Patel
(Wardha)

DON BRADMAN tops the list with 29 Test hundreds.

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1900 to 2300 hrs

through Saturdays
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7190 KHZ (41 M)
11800 KHZ (25 M)
6075 KHZ (49 M)

HINDI -- Sundays
0600 to 1400 hrs
1900 to 2300 hrs

11800 KHZ (25 M)
7190 KHZ (41 M)
11800 KHZ (25 M)
6075 KHZ (49 M)

TAMIL -- Daily
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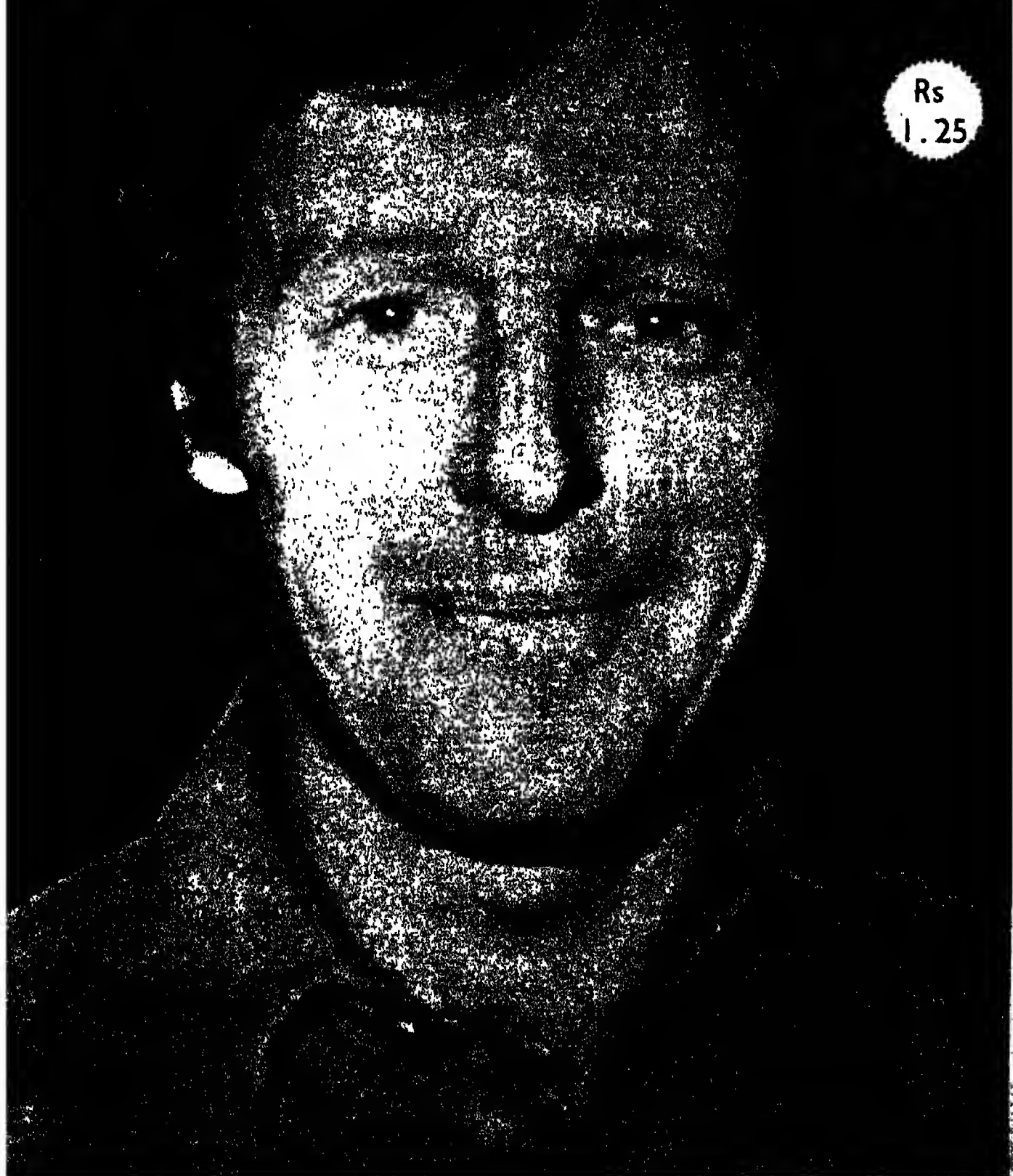
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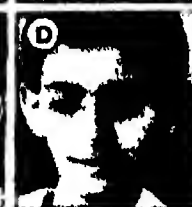
B Patal



G Vishwanath



A Gaekwad



RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Entry forms must be correctly filled in without corrections or erasures. Otherwise such entries will be disqualified.
2. The Contest will be judged by a panel of independent judges whose decision will be final and binding. No correspondence will be entertained.
3. No responsibility will be accepted for delayed receipt, non receipt or misplacement of entries.
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5. Entries may send as many entries as they like, but each entry must be accompanied by the top flap of a 400 gm Glaxose-D pack along with the cash memo.
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7. The Contest closes on 28th February 1977.

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☐ A Gaekwad

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and sportsmanship



Bishen Singh Bedi
For a masterful
captain's innings



Syed Kirmani
For a superb job with
bat & gloves



Brijesh Patel
For bringing the champagne
back into the game



asian paints

match winners with any shade - any time!

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Sportswavek

No 425

November 21 1976

KHALID ANSARI.

India make heavy weather of it

BY scoring a hard-earned 162-run victory over depleted New Zealand in the Bombay Test, India have confirmed previous evaluations of being the stronger of the two sides in this series — but just!

To be fair to the amiable, sporting visitors, who have a reputation for not being squeamish, it must be conceded that they were somewhat unfortunate in not being able to draw the Test. The victory was certainly flattering to India but the margin flattered the home side.

For a start, New Zealand lost the toss yet again — for the 21st time in 26 Tests. To add to their miseries was the oppressive heat and humidity.

And although as a matter of policy SPORTS WEEK prefers not to enter into umpiring controversies, it must be conceded with due respect to the gentlemen in the white coats, that at least two decisions which went against the New Zealand batsmen in the second innings were rather debatable, not to mention the shocking fact that on one occasion the umpire actually consulted Madan Lal, the fieldsman concerned, before giving his verdict about Collinge's catch (See Alan Graham's report, page 8).

To top it all the disgraceful behaviour of spectators occupying highly priced seats, who booed the New Zealand batsmen when they returned to the pavilion could certainly not have helped the morale of the visitors.

Detailed comments on the match appear elsewhere in this issue. In sum, however, India's victory, the result of team-work, may be attributed, firstly, to the classical batting display — one counted just three uppish strokes in his knock of 119 — of Sunil Gavaskar, who, must surely rank among the best in the world. A comparison between Gavaskar's technique and stroke production and that of astute Kiwi skipper Glenn Turner (who, it must be admitted has been struggling to strike form) in his disciplined, judicious knock is tempting and inevitable but best avoided.

The other contributions on the Indian side were the valiant rearguard batting action of Kurmani, ably supported by Bedi and Chandra. All three of who registered their highest-ever scores, the spectacular pyrotechnics of Brijesh Patel in the second innings, just what the occasion demanded, batting of a variety that has been rarely witnessed in Indian Test cricket in recent years and, of course, the brilliant performances of the spinner who despite the passage of time continue to reign supreme even on unhelpful tracks, which the slow turner at the Wankhede Stadium was.

It appeared to this writer that Turner placed too much faith in his pacemen on a wicket which

despite an anticipated nip on the first morning, could have been expected to take spin even early on. This was precisely what happened because O'Sullivan and Petherick (in particular), did succeed in getting a fair amount of turn almost from the moment they were first introduced into the attack.

One also felt that the three slip fielders were positioned too close to each other, with first slip standing almost behind the wicketkeeper, making diving catches virtually impossible. And, had a gully been stationed in preference to a slip, at least one sharp jab—from Gavaskar—could have come to hand.

If Gaekwad was characteristically stodgy, with most of his runs coming from deflections, cuts and pushes, Mohinder grew in aggressiveness after a somewhat tentative start. Barring Gavaskar's knock, India's batting on the first day was rather dismal and the scoring rate inexplicably slow in the face of the mediocre bowling. Viswanath raised visions of another scintillating knock but was 'thought' out by Turner who tempted the pint-sized Karnataka bank employee to essay his favourite half cut half drive when finding the off side virtually untenanted (the on side was deliberately packed) to one that came straight through.

New Zealand's first innings score of 298 was built largely around the determined efforts of John Parker, who was lucky when at 59 in a total of 95, a streaky shot off a Venkat delivery did not carry to Gavaskar fielding in first slip position. Turner is too accomplished a batsman to go without runs for very long. And had his touch he did for the first time on the twin tour, in the process revealing a rare technical virtuosity and sense of responsibility.

The battle between India's spin bowlers and Turner and John Parker was for the purists and the knowledgeable, a most absorbing one. Initially, Venkat had both of them in a spot of trouble with his clever variations and ability to extract spin out of the wicket by pushing the ball through, but the Kiwis emerged triumphant, from the first round at any rate.

Judged by their performance in the Bombay Test continued on page 41

"Will you make India 'grovel', Mr. Tony Greig?"

RING, ring!

"May I speak to Mr. Tony Greig, please?"

"This is Tony Greig. What can I do for you?"

"Good morning, Mr. Greig. This is Kersi Meher Homji, Australian correspondent of SPORTSWEEK, Bombay. Headquarters has asked me to ask you if you will make India 'grovel' in the coming series, as you had threatened to do the West Indies in England last summer."

The six feet, seven inches, blond giant burst into a loud guffaw.

"Not that again! No comment!"

"Aw c'mon, Mr. Greig!"

"Don't worry, Khalid will catch up with me in India."

"Will you let us know, for sure, Mr. Greig?"

"Sure thing, a promise is a promise."

Write writing Mr. Greig!

-K A

The Bombay Test

A good win, but . . .

INDIA just managed to win the first Test against New Zealand at Bombay with only 114 of the mandatory overs remaining to be bowled. It was no doubt a grand victory, but it needs a probe, from the cricketer's point of view, on a couple of unimposing decisions.

Andy Roberts, who was shaping very well but who preferred to play a more subdued game than his normal one, was given out caught at silly point. Another crucial wicket, that of Collinge who was well set and had adopted the right methods to cope with the situation fell in peculiar circumstances. He was declared caught on the deep square-leg boundary by Madan Lal.

The batsman was reluctant to leave the crease and the two umpires after consultation and after asking the fielder, declared him out. I do not wish to join issue with them but it would have been appropriate if the umpire, if in doubt, had gone to the boundary and verified from the sporting crowd of Bombay if the catch was clean. The fielder, who is always concentrating on the ball, cannot say with certainty whether he made the catch inside or outside the boundary. I believe that the bene-

fit of a doubt should go to the batsman, whatever be the state of the game.

India, as a matter of fact, moved into the driver's seat when Kirmani and Bedi put on 105 runs when India needed them most. Gavaskar began slowly but showed his class with fluent strokes. Gaekwad's knock was patient, but use-

by LALA AMARNATH

tul, and Mohinder Amarnath, played in his usual way making a quick 45. Ashok Mankad was all at sea against Hadlee's out-swingers and when four more wickets fell quickly, India were in trouble. Then Kirmani played the best innings of his career.

The Kiwis batting failed them. India's seam bowlers did not bowl badly, and Mohinder was unlucky not to secure a wicket. Chandra lived up to his reputation claiming four wickets for 77 runs on a lifeless pitch. This time he did not bowl too many short ones and he maintained his line. Bedi and Venkat lent him able support.

Turner and John Parker were

the only two batsmen in the Kiwi side who played good cricket and at one stage they gave a real headache to the Indian bowlers.

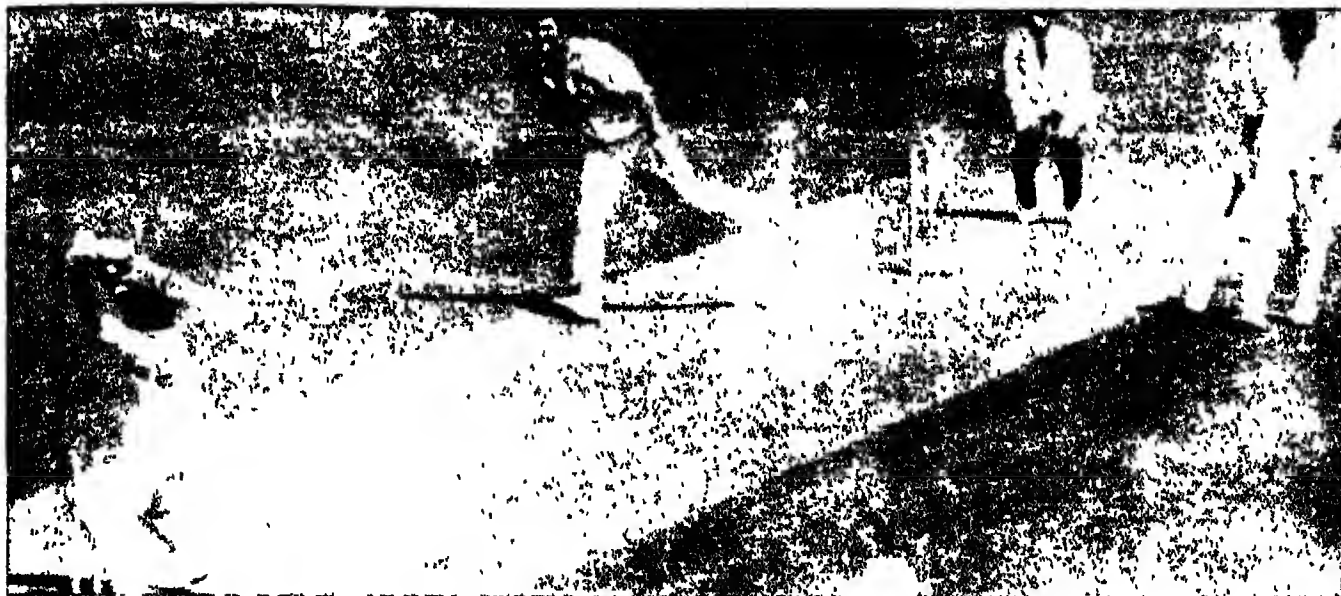
India made 202 for four in the second innings before declaring 25 minutes after the start of the fifth day. Gavaskar lost his wicket playing awkwardly to an outswinger without getting his body behind it. Mohinder, who got a chance to open the innings in Gaekwad's absence, showed that he has the potential to open. But he should not try to hook by moving across. In this way the edged shots will go in the air. He did hook Hadlee twice with grace but ultimately got out to Collinge making the same mistake.

It is a pity that the Kiwis played a commendable innings. But I feel he should have gone for the runs half an hour earlier which would have enabled India to declare at the close of the fourth day.

New Zealand's tired and spineless batting was responsible for their downfall as they were only banking on the pitch and plod tactics instead of applying bold measures. At one stage they lost seven wickets for 67 runs. A fruitless stand between Lees and Col-



The Indian squad that won the first Test against New Zealand. Standing: Patel (left), Chandrasekhar, Mankad, Gavaskar, Alaganan (manager), Bedi, Venkat and Chauhan. Squatting: Reddy (left), Ghavri, Kirmani, Amarnath, Viswanath and Madan Lal. Absent: Gaekwad.



Sunil Gavaskar, who scored a magnificent century, hooks Collinge for four

Well done, Bedi

by G S RAMCHAND

INDIA'S middle-order batsmen once again failed to consolidate the good work of the earlier batsmen and but for a strong rear-guard action by Kumar, Bedi and Chandrasekhar there would have been a different story to tell.

And this was due to indifferent and indecisive stroke. Mohinder Amarnath settled down after the initial shaky period and then paid the price as he played a half-hearted shot. Viswanath brought into play all his strokes, then tried to put one on the off and middle and was bowled. In fact, Turner fed him with this type of delivery knowing very well his penchant for the cut and exploited it fully.

Richard Hadlee who was all over

the place on the first morning, bowled much better with the second new ball and was rewarded with the wickets of Mankad, Venkat and Madan Lal. Had it not been for the superb stand between Bedi and Kumari, India would have been dismissed for a modest total.

Earlier Sunil Gavaskar's strokeful and responsible innings and Ashwini Gaekwad's patient knock had given India a sedate but confident start. Gavaskar was in his element. He cut and drove with tremendous power and often left the well-set field standing. He at last got a well-deserved first century on home soil.

Though our opening attack was not that good, Turner and John

Parker, after getting their eye in, did not exploit the situation and were content to play safe though the wicket was easy. Though our spinners bowled a tight length, Turner and Parker should have scored more briskly than they did.

The Indian fielding as a whole was good and there were no major lapses. Bedi's field placing too was good. The close-to-the-wicket catching and some catches in the deep were excellent.

India, with a lead of 101 runs, attempted to force the pace and Gavaskar lost his wicket in the process. Amarnath and Viswanath maintained the tempo. The former, after scoring useful runs, was out to a rank bad shot, hooking Collinge and scoping the ball in the air. Viswanath went stumped off Petherick and then Brijesh Patel took over. He was slow in the beginning but opened up with a flurry of strokes, treating both spin and pace with scant respect. In a space of four overs he scored 40 runs.

He could have easily reached his century, the way he was going but in the interest of his side he tried to maintain the run rate and in the process sacrificed his wicket. Patel's stroke play was the most redeeming feature at India's batting throughout the match apart from Gavaskar's century.

Bedi's field placings and run-outs were excellent and well marks to all the players for playing as a team.

Test pics & cover transparency
by GOPAL BHAT
More pics pages 36-39

Lala: Bring in a left-hander

Collinge not only pushed the score along but also proved that there was nothing wrong with the wicket, though the ball was turning slowly.

India's captain Bedi ultimately bowled out New Zealand with subtle changes of flight which paid him rich dividends -- five for 27, tremendous analysis and economical. Madan Lal played his part claiming Turner early and Venkat supported his skipper very well.

Bedi led the side intelligently and attacked all the New Zealand batsmen with a cluster of fielders around them and this put tremendous pressure on them. I feel most of the New Zealanders are not technically equipped to play spin bowling and on a real turning wicket they will find it very difficult to cope with our spinners.

I do not understand the policy of the selectors. A player selected for the first Test is dropped without trial. Gavaskar, if he is going to open, will not be successful. I believe he is more useful in the middle order.

I should not be misunderstood if I advocate the inclusion of a left-hander against the tourists. Most of our right-handers found Hadlee a difficult proposition. But a left-hander will take the sting out of his outswinger.

After watching this Test, I am of the opinion that both the sides are more or less equal. We have better spinners and the tourists have better pace bowlers. But in batting we have a slight edge over them and as such I put India's chances at 60-40 in the series.

Kiwis outplayed

by ALAN GRAHAM

(of the New Zealand Press, Wellington, now touring with the New Zealand team)

MURRAY CHAPPLE said India deserved to win the first Test at Bombay. Glenn Turner said India played better than New Zealand but not well enough to win and a draw would have been fair result. Both seemed unhappy at the umpiring on the last day when Murray Parker and Andy Roberts were given out to bat-pad catches, and with the way that Richard Collinge was given out caught on the boundary after a fieldsman told an umpire the catch was good — the previous day the umpires had refused to change a "six" decision when Brijesh Patel was batting, although several fieldsmen said it was a four.

I thought India deserved a win and certainly outplayed New Zealand, though I would have preferred a more clearcut decision with no unhappiness on the last day. The Kiwis were appalled that people in an apparently important stand booed every New Zealand batsman on the last day — that doesn't happen elsewhere.

The loss of the toss was a blow to the New Zealanders who have now lost 21 tosses in their last 26 Tests — who needs a record like that? After losing players like Bevan Congdon, Hedley Howarth, Ken Wadsworth, Brian Hastings and Dayle Hadlee, New Zealand are rebuilding and they need a bit of luck, but they have lost all four tosses in Tests on this tour, with pitches where it is important to bat first.

Sunil Gavaskar was a class batsman on the first day when he made 119. On current form he may rank second to the world's top batsman Barry Richards among openers, and his innings at Bombay was first rate. The second ball of the match, bowled by Richard Collinge from the Tata end, got past Gavaskar, after that it is hard to remember him being in any real trouble. The Kiwis were surprised to learn that he had never previously made a Test century in India and that his eight Test hundreds had all been scored abroad. Gavaskar quickly corrected that anomaly.

Anshuman Gaekwad was steady if slow — he bats awkwardly at times but scores runs, and that is what counts. Mohinder scored 45

and what a useful player he is, valuable batsman at No 2, No 3 or No 6, opening bowler of modest but important ability, and fieldsman in the "hot seat" of bat-pad for the full nine hours of New Zealand's first innings.

New Zealand gained a quick breakthrough on the second day and one was left to wonder what would have happened if the innings had tumbled from 252/8 to 260 all out. Instead Syed Kirmani, playing Hadlee sensibly, carried on with support from Bedi and Chandrasekhar while 147 runs were added for the last two wickets. If India had been all out for 260, New Zealand may have won, alternatively New Zealand's fourth innings could have begun much sooner and India could have won much sooner.

John Parker played one of his best innings to make 104 for New Zealand. He works hard for runs and is not always a flowing batsman, but on this occasion it was Parker rather than Turner who broke the dominance of spin over bat by lofting the ball into the outfield — a technique that becomes important against spin on such a slow pitch — and Parker later went on to help Mark Burgess through a difficult early period.

Glenn Turner played well considering his recent injury and lack of match practice, perhaps he is coming back to the form that has



Venkatraghavan's 100th wicket in Test cricket caught by Kirmani in the first innings

Richard Hadlee



With India well on the road to victory there came an obstacle Warren pulled Bedi hard only to sky the ball over the wicketkeeper's head Viswanath, eyes on the ball, got both hands to it, then floored it

allowed pundits to rate him alongside Berti Sutcliffe among great Kiwi batsmen. The middle order did not last too long but the tourists' decision to play five bowlers, something they never did in Pakistan, was a correct one even if it weakened the batting. In Bombay, humidity the Kiwis would have been struggling with just four bowlers in the long first innings and would have been in great difficulty when a shoulder injury prevented Lance Cairns bowling on the fourth day.

Brigesh Patel after a slow start made a bright start in the second innings. Others bat like that when wickets are in hand and there is nothing to lose and Javed Miandad batted three times in that manner against the Kiwis last month, doing it rather better and hitting the ball much harder. But it was good to see Patel play his shots — it was just the timings India needed to allow the declaration. New Zealand produced another of its famous collapses before and after lunch until Warren Lees and Richard Collinge dug in scoring 50 in 67 minutes to tea and batting on well for some time afterward. Unfortunately, the tail could not hold out against first class spin bowling of the Indian top trio.

Though it was a slow pitch which took spin, I am not going to criticise Polly Umrigar's wicket at Wankhede Stadium. It was well prepared and the Kiwis thought it was a "reasonable" and fair pitch though not necessarily a good one, being slow. What I do criticise, however, is the view expressed

several times, in SPORTSWEEK and the WORLD OF CRICKET that it is a legitimate tactic for a home side to deliberately prepare pitches to suit its bowlers, and that it is legitimate because to quote Ajit Wadekar, "this is being done everywhere and is the only weapon we have." I find this a sad viewpoint. First most other countries don't do it — to some extent countries produce certain types of pitches because of their climate and then produce and select bowlers to suit those pitches, but that is quite different to doing it the other way round and doctoring pitches to suit the home bowlers. I don't support that ethic because it is not good for cricket, and worse still it invites retaliation.

If India for instance prepares spinners pitches in retaliation to having to play on grassy pitches overseas, can India complain if they get even faster, grassier and bouncier pitches next time they tour overseas? Of course not, but I would regard any such retaliation as unreasonable. As for New Zealand, Ajit Wadekar said New Zealand produced for the final Test at Wellington in February a really fast wicket with lots of grass on it. That pitch was certainly grassy but was not fast and was less grassy than many New Zealand pitches. We play England, Australia and the West Indies on grassy pitches, and they all have faster bowlers than we do. It just happens to rain a lot in New Zealand which makes grass grow well. And our pitches do take spin — the 1968 Indian team played on several spinning pitches and the 1976 side

got a spinners' paradise at Auckland. I quote the current NZ team manager Murray Chapple "A good pitch has pace at the start and takes spin later. That sort of pitch is fair to both sides and is good for cricket."

I have been asked by several people in India to say what I thought of umpiring in Pakistan. The three Test umpires were fair and unbiassed, and if they made mistakes some of them favoured New Zealand. They made just two really bad decisions — one an lbw to a leg spinner, pitching a foot outside leg stump (for which the Pakistan players apologised) and another allowing a new ball to be taken two overs early.

I will leave major comment on Indian umpires until I have seen more of them, but I must say that the Bombay Test contained two very bad decisions. One was the run out of John Parker. He was certainly out, no doubt about it — but the finger was up BEFORE the dismissal was made, and that should not happen in a Test. The second was Brigesh Patel's "six" off Collinge. This ball pitched well short of the boundary but the square leg umpire signalled six without consulting the fieldsmen who were in a much better position to see that it was clearly a four. Both decisions indicated excitable umpires. Iest it be thought I am ending on an overcritical note, may I say that the Kiwis enjoyed Bombay were most impressed by the stadium and its facilities, were very well looked after here and met many pleasant and knowledgeable people in the city.



Bedi won the toss and the Test. Turner called wrong for the fourth time in succession in four Tests

A shock or two for the tourists

GLINN TURNER in defeat was still the diplomat, losing none of his poker-faced composure. But there was no mistaking the bitterness in his forthright comment: "We didn't deserve to lose." He agreed that India played better, and had the luck of the toss, but he said a draw would have been a fairer result.

Two aspects of the Bombay Test that revealed the bitterness were the umpiring and the crowd's behaviour. Some of the New Zealanders were "amazed" at being given out. Turner wouldn't specify. He was rather surprised when the umpire consulted the fielder before giving Dick Collinge out. If there was a doubt he felt it batsman should have got the benefit.

Again when the New Zealand fielders pointed out that a Brijesh Patel hit was a four and not a six, the umpire stuck to their original decision of a six. Turner put

this down to "problems we couldn't have anticipated. I'm not going to elaborate."

The crowd's behaviour had them foxed. From above the pavilion, nearly all the outgoing New Zealand batsmen were booed. "I don't know the psychology here, perhaps it's their way of saying 'hard luck'."

The pitch was not a good one, but reasonable. It obviously took a bit of turn as the match wore on. As regards his team's performance, he wasn't too disappointed. His attack was based on pace, and his men were pleasantly surprised at the amount of movement they were able to get in the air. This was probably due to the heavy humidity, but the oppressive heat almost nullified the advantage.

Turner said only one side could have won the match after India had won the toss and scored nearly 400 runs. Bedi's declaration wasn't calculated to give his oppo-

nents a chance to get the runs, yet Turner was emphatic that a draw would have been possible but "for other pressures when you are batting last."

Bishen Singh Bedi said it was a hard victory and that it was certain to be a morale booster for the Tests ahead. He was happy at the way the team was shaping after nearly seven months away from Test cricket. The victory would put them back into the groove.

There hadn't been much in the wicket for the spinners — it was too slow — but they had stuck to their plan. "The only way was to attack them. If two or three of them early batsmen had got going we would have been hard pressed."

On the umpiring, he would not say more than that both sides had suffered. Finally, he said it had been a great team effort.

—G B

INDIA v NEW ZEALAND FIRST TEST

Played at Wankhede Stadium, Bombay, November 10, 11, 13, 14, 15 (1976)
Result: India won by 162 runs
Toss won by India
Test debut: Nili
Umpires: I. Reuben and B. Satyanarayan

INDIA

S. M. Gavaskar c Cairns b Petherick	119
A. D. Gaekwad lbw b O'Sullivan	42
M. Amarnath c O'Sullivan b Hadlee	45
G. R. Viswanath b Petherick	10
B. P. Patel b Cairns	4
A. V. Mankad c and b Hadlee	16
b Madan Lal c M. Parker b Hadlee	6
+ S. M. H. Kirmann c I. Parker b Petherick	48
E. Venkatraghavan c Turner b Hadlee	1
* B. S. Bedi c I. Parker b Cairns	36
B. S. Chandrasekhar not out	20
Extras (B 2, lb 1, Nb 5)	8
Total	399

FAIL OF WICKETS

1120 (Gaekwad)	2198 (Gavaskar)	124 (Gavaskar)	263
3218 (Viswanath)	4219 (Amarnath)	5239 (Amarnath)	4115 (Viswanath)
(Mankad)	6214 (Patel)	237 (Madan Lal)	10499 (Kirmann)
(al), 8732 (Venkat)	9157 (Bedi)	10499 (Kirmann)	

BOWLING

Collinge	15	5	41	0
Hadlee	29	5	95	4
Cairns	31	8	76	2
Roberts	6	0	27	0
O'Sullivan	27	9	62	1
Petherick	31	5	90	1

NEW ZEALAND

* G. M. Turner c Amarnath b Venkat	61
N. M. Parker c Kirmann b Chandra	9
J. M. Parker run out	104
M. G. Burgess c sub (Chandra) b Bedi	42
A. D. G. Roberts lbw b Chandra	2
+ W. Lee c Kirmann b Chandra	7
R. J. Hadlee c Kirmann b Venkat	17
b L. Cairns b (Chandra)	12
D. R. (Cairns) c Venkat b Bedi	3
R. G. Collinge c Kirmann b Venkat	26
P. J. Petherick not out	0
Extras (B 1, lb 6, Nb 4)	11
Total	298

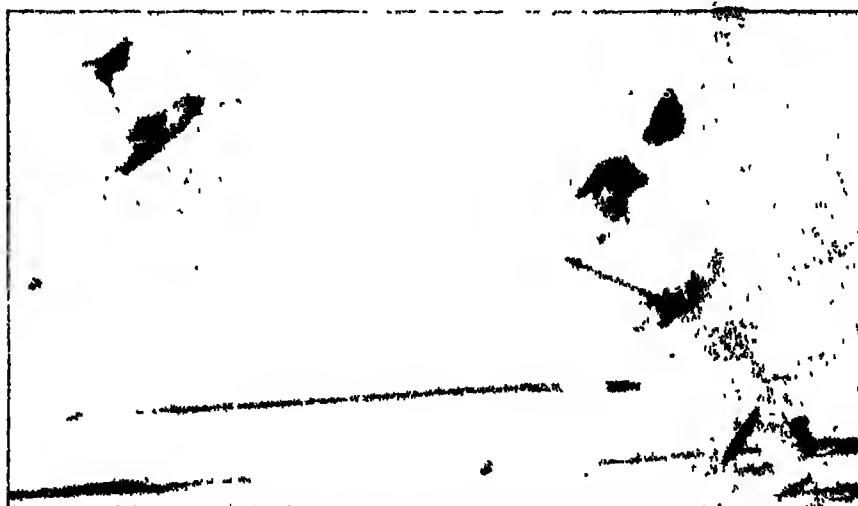
FAIL OF WICKETS

17 (M. Parker)	2143 (Turner)	3720	16 (Turner)	225 (J. Parker)	427
(Parker)	1279 (Burgess)	5238 (Lees)	327 (M. Parker)	427	
6239 (Roberts)	7267 (Hadlee)	8267	(Burgess)	550 (Roberts)	
(Cairns)	9798 (Collinge)	10299 (O'Sullivan)	664 (Hadlee)	767 (Cairns)	
			6132 (Lees)	9136 (Collinge)	10141 (Petherick)

BOWLING

Madan Lal	9	2	27	0	6	0	13	1
Amarnath	11	1	33	0	3	0	9	0
Bedi	50	21	71	2	13	16	27	5
Chandra	44	13	77	4	19	2	59	2
Venkat	47	11	79	3	19	9	29	2

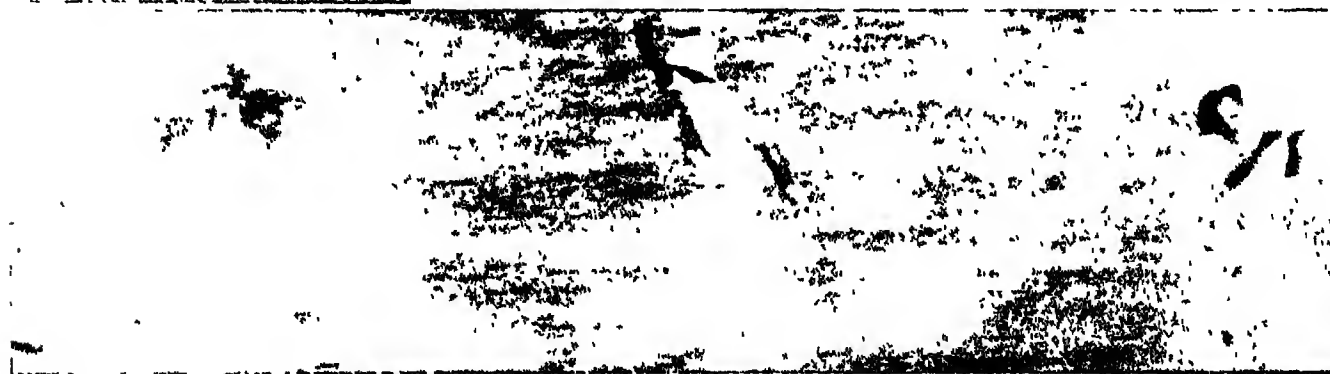
The Kiwi crash

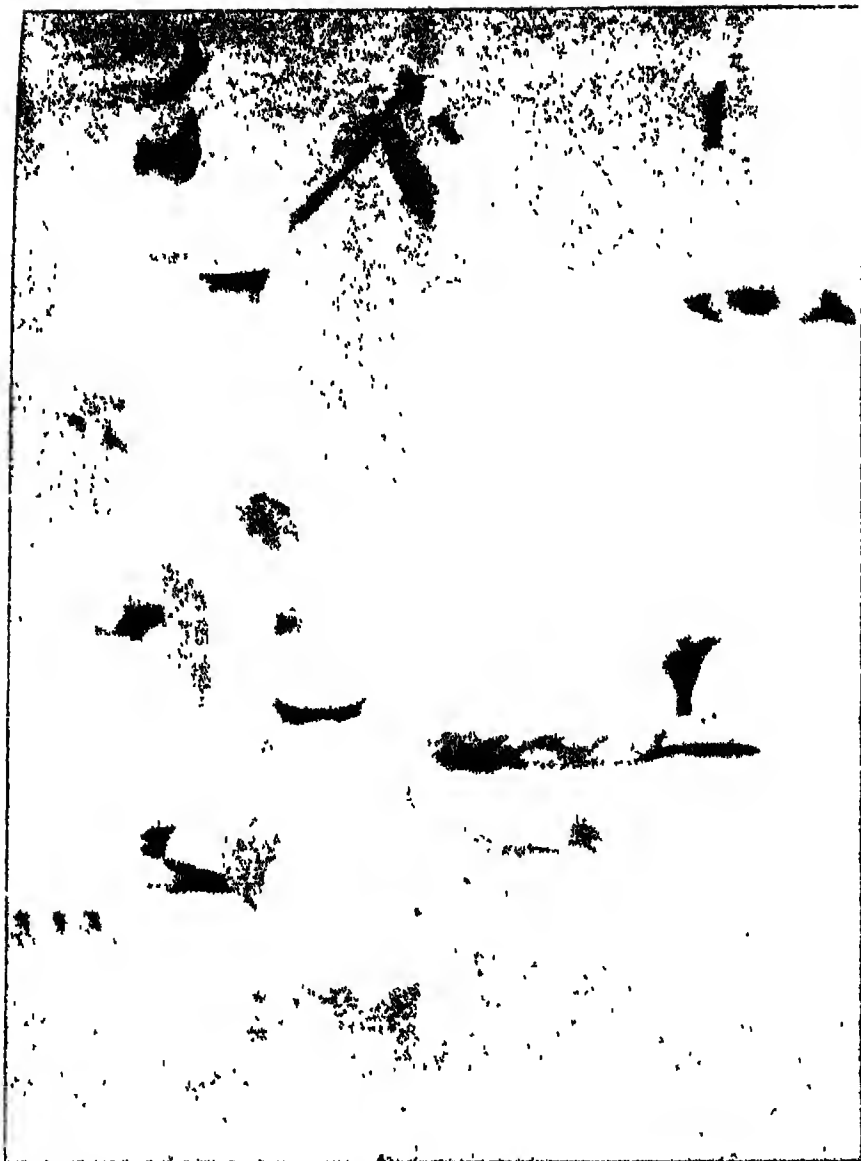


Warren Lees provided stubborn resistance before he lost patience, took a swipe and was bowled by Venkat

On the final day the New Zealanders collapsed to give India victory
 First to go was Glenn Turner, snapped up by Gavaskar off Madan Lal

Mark Burgess groped half cock to Bedi and Gavaskar picked up the catch at short leg (below) Andy Roberts was well held by Mankad at silly mid-off off Bedi (bottom)





John Parker played back to Bedi and was bowled through 'the gate'

Mohinder Amarnath rolls over and catches Murray Parker off Chandra in New Zealand's second innings

Mayor Manohar Joshi was first on the field to congratulate the victorious Indians from left. Patel, Kirmani, Chandra Redi, Gavaskar and Gavri



The Art of Cricket

The forward drives

BROADLY speaking these may be classified as (a) Cover Drive (b) Off Drive (c) Straight Drive (d) On Drive

Basically, each shot has the same characteristics

To be on the safe side a batsman would normally only attempt to drive a ball which we can term over-pitched, so that he can make the stroke without fear that the break or swing will evade his bat in the execution thereof

The left shoulder must lean forward in all drives though it is pulled away quicker in the case of the on drive than the others, in order to assist the direction of the shot. The left hip, too, must go well forward as the weight is transferred on to the front foot

The distance a batsman needs to advance his left foot down the pitch depends on the length of the ball. A ball of six inches off the ground could be driven by just transferring the weight as the ball was struck, whereas a ball pushing say five feet in front of the popping crease would demand a full stretch forward

For a cover drive the left toe would point towards cover, and then it would progressively point a little more directly towards the bowler for the other drives, round to mid on

The left leg must carry the weight of the body at the moment of contact but it should be comfortably bent at the knees to maintain balance. In all cases the right heel is lifted and the right leg is balanced on the toe, which is kept clearly behind the popping crease

The back lift should be higher than it is for the forward defensive stroke and there should be a complete follow through. The ball must be struck just before the bat reaches the perpendicular in order to keep it on the ground

With the cover drive, the blade is a fraction open at contact, with off and straight drives it is practically square, but with the on drive (or when driving say between mid-on and square-leg) the face of the bat will be closing slightly on the ball. This will help to keep the ball on the ground and will also give added control over the direction. It will at the same time help counteract any tendency to hit across the flight, especially in the case of a drive wide of mid-on.

The direction of the ball for the on-side drive should be roughly towards the leg stump, straight drive

middle to off stump, off drive from off stump to just outside, whilst cover drives should be played from balls pitched well clear of the off stump

There must naturally be a considerable degree of flexibility in the direction because this is under the batsman's control and he will vary his shots according to the field placing

There should not be much danger in any of the strokes, but with the cover drive one is using less than the full width of the blade and any deviation from an accurate blow can result in a slip catch off the outside edge, and there is the risk of pulling the ball on to the stumps from the inside edge

With all drives play as close to the front leg as possible compatible with freedom

Against fast or medium-pace bowlers one expects to play the various drives from the crease

Against a slow bowler, however, a batsman may, by fast footwork and good judgment, essay out of his crease down the wicket to make a half-volley out of a ball which otherwise would have been of good

by SIR DONALD BRADMAN

length. In this way he can make punishing drives and upset the bowler's control. Indeed, it is one of the most potent weapons a batsman possesses and is used all too infrequently

Particularly to an off-spinner there is often much less risk involved in jumping out to drive than in staying at home. You overcome the dangerous length ball, smother the break, cover with your pads any danger of stumping and confuse the bowler who will probably start to vary his length and thus provide you with other scoring opportunities

I would like to stress the importance of the initial forward position of the left shoulder in driving. It aids power and is a tremendous factor in causing the bat to travel "through the ball," just as one has the feeling of a hammer head going "through the nail" as you drive it into the wood

No reference to forward driving would be complete without mentioning the lofted drive

From history one may deduct that this stroke was far more prevalent 50 years ago than it is now. There is always some element of risk when lofting the ball. One has not the margin of safety for a mis-hit in the air that one has for a shot along the ground

However, the batsman may find

there are occasions when the shot is called for by the state of the game demanding aggression beyond that normally attempted. Or perhaps a very close attacking field may cause him to use it as a method of dispersing the fieldsmen

Whilst I do not encourage batsmen to hit the ball in the air, I am all in favour of it when circumstances decree its wisdom, and every batsman should have the stroke in his repertoire

But remember, it must be used with discretion. When a bowler has a man on the boundary behind mid-on, it is just suicide to try to loft a drive over mid-on, hoping it will fall safely in between, or go for six. That sort of indiscretion merely reflects on the batsman's mentality, unless, of course, runs are the only objective and wickets of no concern

A tall, powerful batsman who is a good driver is a joy to watch

With some of the modern new ball fields, where there is an arc of seven men behind the stumps and only one fieldsmen in front on each side, I have seen many

golden opportunities of driving go begging because of timidity

Some batsmen are so intent on back defence that they are never ready for the initial movement to drive. In this way they find themselves at the mercy of an intelligent bowler who can keep the ball well up and give it the maximum chance to swing, knowing he is safe from the vicious forward drive

Just because a ball swings doesn't mean it can't be driven. There is nothing better than a nicely curving, cut-swinging half-volley to drive through the covers. The swing helps it like a charm

Of course, a measure of skill is involved and fine judgment has to be exercised, but batsmen of international repute should possess these things abundantly

Common faults in driving are (a) front foot not close enough to the line of flight and (b) not sufficient follow through

May I issue a warning not to drive against the swing. An out-swing should only be driven to the off — an in-swing to the on

And make sure the blade of the bat does not get in front of the handle before contact with the ball except for the deliberately lofted drive. The hands must lead

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(to be continued)

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The Duleep Trophy

WEST BACK ON TOP

IN an utterly one sided final West Zone beat North Zone by nine wickets to regain the Duleep Cricket Trophy after a lapse of four years. It was the crowning achievement at the end of a series of good performances which saw them turn the tables on East Zone in the quarter-final and later convincingly beat South Zone, their arch rivals, in the semi-final.

It was West's batting strength which won them the match on a wicket which yielded turn right from the opening day. North had no batsmen willing to stay long while West found four men who rose to the task on hand — Sunil Gavaskar, Dilip Vengsarkar, Yajuvendra Singh and Dhruv Pariana. West also took some very good catches in close-in positions, with Anshuman Gaekwad doing some outstanding work there.

West had the worst of the under prepared wicket. On the morning of the second day and a good part of the afternoon the ball jumped and turned viciously, probably from some patches, while West were in for their first innings after dismissing North for 175. But the foursome, batting with assurance, wrested the match from out of North's reach. Their first innings lead of 152 was of match-winning proportions on that wicket and it left West Zone to get only 31 runs in the second innings.

West had their slice of luck. Yajuvendra Singh was ruled out



West Zone skipper Sunil Gavaskar receives the Duleep Trophy from Cricket Board president Ram Prakash Mehra.

when he was only 34. Photographs proved he was clearly out of the crease when wicket-keeper Inderjeet Singh broke the wicket from Bedi's throw. Yajuvendra went on to make 93, the top score of the match, and swung the game West's way in a fighting stand with Vengsarkar.

The stand was the turning point of the match. West had lost three wickets for 90 runs, the oddities of the pitch having been responsible for those dismissals.

Gaekwad had gone for 20 and

after Gavaskar and Vengsarkar had put on 50 runs for the second wicket, Rajinder Goel with successive balls in his first over, that turned beyond expectation, sent back Gavaskar and Ashok Mankad. But Yajuvendra and Vengsarkar lasted through 501 overs while adding 109 runs in 147 minutes for the fourth-wicket stand. It clinched West the lead and later Pariana hit a solid 47, including a six off Bedi, to take West's total to 327.

Gaekwad and even Gavaskar had been in trouble against the turning ball. Backfoot play was clearly fatal. And Gavaskar launched a front-foot offensive that brought him 10 fours in his 51, a most skillful innings that lasted nearly two hours. Even Gaekwad for once was stepping out, to drive Bedi, a clear indication that all was not well with the pitch.

Vengsarkar, also playing on the backfoot at the start of the innings, was in all sorts of trouble. But Gavaskar had shown the way and now he went full stretch forward to smother the spin. Yajuvendra, normally strong on the backfoot, now chose the same defensive style to kill the spin and little by little the North Zone bowling lost its threatening look.

As he began gaining in confidence Vengsarkar started stepping out and twice slammed Bedi to the boundary. He was dropped at 55 but was soon out for 63 after batting three hours 20 minutes, an innings of marvellous concentra-



The victorious West Zone team

tion for one whose flair is for strokeplay

Yajuvendra, in only his first Duleep Trophy season, showed remarkable concentration lasting three and a half hours, and when the second new ball was taken he twice hooked Madanlal, once for a six. He looked terribly dejected at having missed a century. His innings deserved more than a hundred and he had served his team well. Apart from that run-out shave, he gave no chance and should be on the fringe of Test arena.

The turning wicket was not however to blame for North's debacle on the first morning. True, eight batsmen were out to spinners, but only the dismissals of Chetan Chauhan and Vinay Lamba were the deeds of the pitch. Without Lamba's 37 and Rakesh Shukla's 36 at No. 8 North would have been in a stew. They came together at 115 for six and raised 51 runs in an hour.

North's attitude did not change in the second innings. And now they had a stand of 75 in 84 minutes for the fourth wicket between Venkat Sundaram and Mohinder Amarnath to prop them up. Mohinder used his pads more often than the bat at the start against Uday Joshi, who had him in a bother, but he later stroked fluently for his 40. The left-handed Sundaram made 67 in four hours and alone of all the batsmen looked in a mood to stay at the wicket.

A lot of ill feelings crept into play during the Mohinder-Sundaram stand. Several of their appeals turned down. West gave vent to their disappointment. Gavaskar once ran from point to the umpire and Gaekwad flung the ball down in disgust. That showed during West Zone's second innings in the final half hour when Mohinder and Madanlal bowled too many bouncers, one by Mohinder grazing Gavaskar's shoulder.

It carried the battle into the fourth day and West took 17 minutes to wrap up a convincing victory. West had won the trophy for the eighth time, including the one time they had shared it with South, and now they are one up on their arch rivals.

—SW Correspondent

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Yajuvendra Singh . . . fighting knock for West



Sunil Gavaskar . . . back to his wonted form

Gavaskar blossoms

THE Duleep Trophy semi-final between South Zone and West Zone was marked by the return to his wonted form by Sunil Gavaskar and two splendid innings, each different in character from the other, by Brijesh Patel.

It will also be remembered for Karsan Ghavri's bowling on the opening day. His 5 for 68 wrecked South champions for the last two years, and paved the way for West dethroning them on first innings lead.

Gavaskar had been having a lean trot. Except for his 83, with two chances, against Saurashtra at Surendranagar last month he had little of consequence in the bank. But here he finally blossomed to play an innings of character that

remorselessly ground South Zone into the dust.

His 228 fell only one run short of the Duleep Trophy record, by Ajit Wadekar, but will rank among the greatest innings played in this inter-zone competition. The opposition was fierce — nearly all the best of the country in spin bowling and there was Jyothi Prasad too.

The Hyderabad medium pacer had got him first ball in the Deodhar Trophy semi-final only three days earlier. And now Jyothi Prasad nearly gave an encore.

He dropped Gavaskar, off a return chance, in the first ball of the innings. He and South were to rue that lapse as the little opener held the stage for over eight hours, not giving another chance, wearing

down the South attack stroke by confident stroke

Prasanna did not bowl for most of the third day because of an upset stomach. But by then Gavaskar had already moved past 150 and clinched for West the first innings lead that finally settled the result of this battle of giants.

The Gavaskar stamp was all over that classic innings — head down, behind the line of the ball, the crashing squarecut, the drive to extracover and the forcing shot to midwicket moving into the stumps. There were 31 fours, all full-blooded strokes, and there was little South Zone could do but hope and wait.

They always said that Brijesh Patel could only take apart bowling that had already been softened. When he walked in to bat in the first innings South Zone, electing to bat, were three down for 60 and Viswanath back in the pavilion. A while later, at 102 for seven, the South Zone innings was on the verge of a shambles.

That they finally managed a modest total of 236 was mainly the handiwork of Patel and Ivotipia, son whose eighth-wicket stand yielded 108 runs in 106 minutes, Patel scoring 85 and Ivotipia 40.

Patel also had a 'life' the first ball he received. He smacked Dhruv Parsana a but wicket keeper, Surbhash Bandiwadkar moved the wrong way and Patel and the crowd sighed in relief. A favourite with the crowds here, Patel stone-walled for over two hours, quite in disagreement with his natural game. For his last 50 then crashed his next 35 in only 12 minutes off 36 balls.

He smashed 14 spanking fours, most of them on the offside and was outstepping outtiring to hit Parsana out of the ground only to sky a catch to Usman at long-on. As it that star turn had not been

enough to convince himself and the crowd, he bashed the West Zone bowlers for 132 in the second innings with two sixes and 19 fours.

There had again been pressure on him. Four wickets had gone for 124. But now he found in Sudhakar Rao the man he could rely on. Together they raised 79 runs, when Sudhakar retired after being hit on the head hooking at Ghavri.

In Sudhakar's company he was mostly scoring on the offside and along the carpet but now he began to lift his strokes. Runs began gushing in and once again he fell to a catch at long-on, held by Anshuman Gaekwad off Ashok Mankad, after having hit Mankad for 15 runs in one over.

A word about Mankad. This batsman, underrated by the national selectors, was again among the runs, scoring a typical 58 and giving Gavaskar company in a stand of 102 after West had lost Gaekwad and Dilip Vengsarkar for 51.

But the opening day belonged as much to Ghavri as Patel. On a Motibaug Palace ground wicket that yielded little help to the bowlers he got the South Zone batsmen in a tangle.

Parsana was the ideal foil at the other end, capturing the wickets of Krishnaswamy and Viswanath in his opening spell and winding up with three for 68. The blow he struck to get Viswanath was as vital as any and he is certainly pressing his claim for a Test cap.

Ghavri had Roger Binny, Michael Dalvi (he failed in both innings), Sudhakar Rao, Kirmari and skipper Venkataraghavan as South slid to 102 for seven. That was a rousing start and won for West Zone more than half the battle.

West replied with 15 for no loss at the end of the first day and



Brijesh Patel... in sparkling form in the semi-final

South were to rue the 'life' they gave to Gavaskar all through the next. He ended the day with 159 in a total of 280 for four and when he completed his 200 on the third morning he became only the fifth batsman to score a double century in the Duleep Trophy, emulating Wadekar, Baig, Hanuman Singh and Pataudi.

West, all out for 418, were 182 ahead and with South Zone, two down for 90 at the close, they were still in the hunt for an outright victory.

That thin hope turned into a distinct possibility when South Zone lost two other wickets moving to 124. But Brijesh Patel, with that ignominy with cavalier batting of which he alone is capable.

--SW Correspondent



Surinder Amarnath falls low to Uday Joshi much to the glee of the West Zone fielders. Pics: Shant Shah

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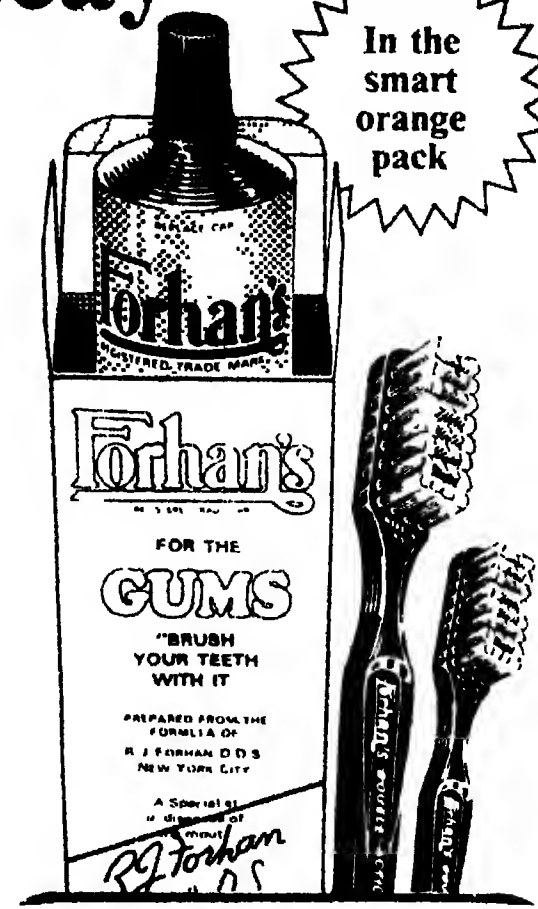
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Some facts and figures

THE career-best 152 by Warren Lees at Karachi is the highest individual score by a New Zealander in any Test, home or away, against Pakistan, beating Barry Sinclair's 130 in the 1965 Lahore Test and Brian Hastings' 110 at Auckland in 1973. It is also New Zealand's best Test score in any match at Karachi, supplanting John Reid's 128 in 1965.

ASIF IQBAL completed 2,000 runs at Lahore in his 35th Test when his score reached 106, thus becoming the fourth Pakistani batsman to cross this milestone, in the wake of Hanif 3,915 runs in 55 Tests, Saeed Ahmed 2,991 in 41, and Mushtaq 2,892 in 41, and leaving behind Imtiaz Ahmed 2,079 in 41. Asif has now an aggregate of 2,176 runs in 37 Tests. He had reached the first 1,000 runs of his Test career in his 20th Test at Headingley in 1971.

JAVED MIANDAD's 206 at Karachi is the highest individual score in 13 Tests at this venue involving all countries, nudging just ahead of Ted Dexter's 205 for England in 1962. It is also the best for Pakistan in any Test against New Zealand at this ground, erasing Saeed Ahmed's 172 in 1965, and it just fell short of the record score of 209 by Imtiaz Ahmed at Lahore in 1955 in the series against New Zealand.

THE fifth wicket partnership of 183 runs between Mark Burgess and Robert Anderson (making his Test debut) at Lahore is a New Zealand record for this wicket position in all Test cricket, wiping out the previous best of 177 between Bevan Congdon and Vic Pollard vs England at Trent Bridge in 1973. It is also, naturally enough, a series record too, replacing the previous fifth wicket stand of 150 between S. N. Macgregor and N. S. Harford at the same venue in 1955.

THE fifth wicket stand of 281 between Test debutant Javed Miandad and Asif Iqbal at Lahore is a new record for Pakistan in all Test cricket, rendering obsolete the previous highest for the fifth wicket between Javed Burki and Nasim-ul-Ghani against England at Lord's in 1962, as also erasing the series best of 70 between Majid Khan and Asif Iqbal at this same venue in 1965.

— R. B. MAMA

PAK—NZ TEST AVERAGES

PAKISTAN — BATTING

	T	I	N	O	R	H	S	100	50	Ct	St	Avg
Javed Miandad	3	5	1		504	206	2	1	4	—	—	126.00
Mushtaq Mohammed	3	5	1		284	107	2	1	5	—	—	71.00
Asif Iqbal	3	5	1		282	166	1	1	1	—	—	70.50
Majid Khan	3	5	—		304	112	1	2	5	—	—	60.80
Sadiq Mohammed	3	5	1		211	103*	1	—	3	—	—	52.75
Imran Khan	3	4	1		105	59	—	1	1	—	—	35.00
Zaheer Abbas	3	5	—		60	16	—	—	2	—	—	12.00
Sarfraz Nawaz	3	4	1		33	15	—	—	—	—	—	11.00
Intikhab Alam	3	3	—		4	4	—	—	1	—	—	1.33
Wasim Bari	2	3	3		15	13*	—	—	7	1	—	—
Shahid Israr	1	1	1		7	7*	—	—	2	—	—	—
Wasim Raja	1	1	—		0	0	—	—	2	—	—	—
Farrukh Zaman	1	—	—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sikandar Bakht	1	—	—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

CENTURIES: Miandad 163 and Asif Iqbal 166 at Lahore, Sadiq 103 and Mushtaq 101 at Hyderabad, Majid 112, Miandad 206 and Mushtaq 107 at Karachi.

CENTURY PARTNERSHIPS (6): 281 (5th wicket) Miandad — Asif Iqbal at Lahore, 136 (1st wicket) Majid — Sadiq and 164 (4th wicket) Mushtaq — Asif Iqbal both at Hyderabad, 147 (1st wicket) Majid — Sadiq and 252 (4th wicket) Mushtaq — Miandad both in first innings at Karachi, and 138 (5th wicket) Miandad — Mushtaq in second innings at Karachi. (Although 164 runs were scored for first wicket at Hyderabad, Sadiq had retired hurt at 136 to be replaced by Zaheer who added 28 more with Majid before the first wicket fell).

PAKISTAN — BOWLING

	B	M	R	W	Best	Avg
Intikhab Alam	948	34	325	15	4.35	21.66
Sarfraz Nawaz	638	12	284	13	1.53	21.84
Javed Miandad	491	11	211	8	3.78	26.37
Imran Khan	907	15	421	14	4.59	30.07
Mushtaq Mohammed	352	13	129	4	2.6	32.25
Sikandar Bakht	192	5	106	3	2.38	35.33
Asif Iqbal	16	—	10	0	—	—
Farrukh Zaman	80	2	15	0	—	—
Majid Khan	112	6	23	0	—	—
Sadiq Mohammed	16	1	4	0	—	—
Wasim Raja	56	—	31	0	—	—

4 wickets in an innings: 4 for 35 at Lahore and 4 for 36 at Hyderabad both by Intikhab, 4 for 59 by Imran at Lahore.

NEW ZEALAND — BATTING

	T	I	N	O	R	H	S	100	50	Ct	St	Avg
R. J. Hadlee	3	6	2		214	87	—	1	2	—	—	53.50
W. Lees	3	6	—		292	152	1	—	5	4	—	48.66
B. L. Cairns	2	4	2		82	52*	—	1	—	—	—	41.00
M. G. Burgess	3	6	—		226	111	1	—	4	—	—	37.66
A. D. G. Roberts	2	4	—		125	45	—	—	—	—	—	31.25
R. W. Anderson	3	6	—		178	92	—	1	—	—	—	29.66
J. M. Parker	3	6	—		160	82	—	1	1	—	—	26.66
N. M. Parker	1	2	—		42	40	—	—	—	—	—	21.00
G. P. Howarth	2	4	—		62	39	—	—	1	—	—	15.50
G. M. Turner	2	4	—		60	49	—	—	3	—	—	15.00
D. R. O'Sullivan	3	5	1		59	23*	—	—	1	—	—	14.75
J. F. M. Morrison	2	4	—		78	31	—	—	2	—	—	9.50
P. J. Petherick	2	4	2		10	8*	—	—	1	—	—	5.00
R. O. Collinge	2	3	—		11	8	—	—	—	—	—	3.66

CENTURIES: 111 by Burgess at Lahore, 152 by Lees at Karachi.

CENTURY PARTNERSHIPS (2): 183 (5th wicket) Burgess — Anderson at Lahore, 186 (7th wicket) Lees — Hadlee at Karachi.

NEW ZEALAND — BOWLING

	B	M	R	W	Best	SwI	Avg
G. P. Howarth	24	—	13	1	1.13	—	13.00
M. G. Burgess	32	1	20	1	1.20	—	20.00
A. D. G. Roberts	101	2	41	2	1.18	—	20.50
P. J. Petherick	471	8	289	7	3.105	—	41.48
R. J. Hadlee	602	2	448	10	5.121	—	44.80
D. R. O'Sullivan	933	19	403	—	2.92	—	57.57
R. O. Collinge	424	1	339	—	2.140	—	64.75
B. L. Cairns	432	9	243	—	1.101	—	121.50
W. Lees	5	—	4	0	—	—	—
J. F. M. Morrison	24	—	9	0	—	—	—

3 wickets in an innings: 5 for 121 at Lahore and 4 for 119 at Karachi both by Hadlee, 3 for 105 including the hat-trick by Petherick at Lahore.

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HOCKEY NOTES.

THE Indian Hockey Federation selected a young contingent for the international hockey tournament in Pakistan keeping in view the need to build the future national team. This is by way of explanation from IHF president M.A.M. Ramaswamy, who has in a statement expressed the need to clarify certain points made by critics of the selection.

Ramaswamy was replying in particular to a statement issued to the press by R.L. Anand, director of the National Institute of Sports, Patiala, in which Anand made certain observations regarding the composition of the team and the delay in announcing it.

Rather than vindicating the decisions of the national federation which were taken after due consideration of the circumstances, Ramaswamy said, he wanted to "categorically record" the facts connected with the decisions.

Ramaswamy said that a letter dated March 20, 1976, from the secretary of the Pakistan Hockey Federation, Asif Hyat, addressed to the IHF president was received in April this year. The letter an invitation to participate in the Innah Centenary Tournament to be held at Lahore in November 1976, was sent to the Education Ministry for clearance.

The IHF president said that despite personal meetings of IHF officials with Education Ministry officials, no clearance was obtained and the IHF sought the Indian Olympic Association's help. On October 5, the IOA wrote to the Education Ministry requesting grant of permission to the IHF to send the team to Pakistan.

According to the IHF president, a telegram was received on October 8 from the Education Ministry stating that the Government had no objection to the IHF accepting the invitation from Pakistan.

As the exact date and venue of the tournament were not available, letters were sent to the PHF and trunk calls booked seeking the relevant information. "No confirmation to any of our communications has been received so far, except a telephonic communication from Amin of the Pakistan embassy in Delhi to say that the Indian team should reach Lahore by November 11 or 12," Ramaswamy said.

On November 4, the IHF president said, he received a telegram from Anand saying "Following eight players still not reported in hockey camp for Pakistan visit Baldev Singh, Ravi Kumar, Mehboob Khan, Zaffaruddin, Preminder Singh, Chengappa, Fernandez,

MAM answers the critics

and Cederic D'Souza. Coach G.S. Bodhi physically unfit. Manager not yet reported.

"In our opinion difficult to form good national team to represent India in such short time. Suggest we either call the team IHF President's XI or include five senior experienced players like Ashok, Govinda and Surjeet.

According to Ramaswamy, the reply he sent was: "Three IAC players will reach Patiala tomorrow. Requesting SSCB to release Maj Haripal Kaushik to accompany team as coach-cum-manager. Team will go as Indian XI and no other name.

As the original invitation asked the IHF to send a team to represent India, the question of sending a team under any other name does not arise, the IHF president added.

"In view of the above stated facts that all our present national hockey players cannot represent the country indefinitely and the need of the hour to build our future national team, the IHF resolved to select a young contingent. I am confident they will conduct themselves as true sportsmen with dignity and play the game for the honour of our country which is in keeping with the highest tradition of the Olympic slogan to participate in an international competition rather than to win at any cost," Ramaswamy added.

Anand's charge

Earlier, NIS director R.L. Anand had said that the composition and potential of the Lahore-based Indian hockey team under training at the NIS has disappointed hockey experts.

Anand disclosed that only 14 out of 22 players called for the coaching camp had so far turned up here. The coach Gucharansingh Bodhi also felt too weak to undertake the assignment, he said.

Anand said it would be a mis-

nommer to call this team, an Indian XI. He said eight of the boys selected had not even played in the senior National Championships so far. He said he had no instructions from the Indian Hockey Federation about the training and coaching of the team.

Anand said he had cabled the IHF president asking him to consider nominating some seasoned and experienced players in the team so that the country could put up a good show at the Lahore tournament where some of the world's top teams are participating.

He has also "urged the IHF president to ensure full attendance of the elected players at the camp," he added.

Old fit

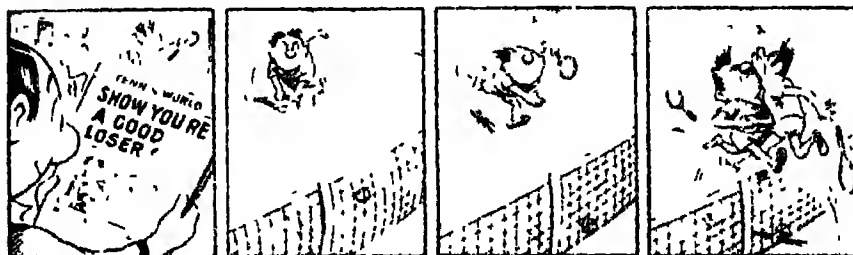
CHRIS OLD successfully passed a fitness test recently and improved England's chances of winning the winter Test series in India. He had to pass it to take his place among the 16 players leaving this month for the 12 weeks' tour.

Old bowled for 75 minutes of his full round in the indoor nets at Headingley and satisfied selector Charlie Elliott he had fully recovered from the knee condition that deprived England of his services for three of last season's Tests against West Indies.

Old, 27, said later he has had no trouble with his knees since a Yorkshire specialist gave him a course of electrical treatment eight weeks ago.

"I'm a hundred per cent confident they won't let me down," he said. "It's a nice feeling being able to walk down stairs again without having to be careful — just one of the everyday things I hadn't been able to do for some time until I started this treatment."

SPORTING SAM by Reg Wootton





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mini-portraits of maxi-stars...

HE is an unassuming and relatively unathletic man but he has performed some sporting feats beyond the scope of most mortals. He has carried his bat through a Test innings at Lord's, set a new Worcestershire record of ten hundreds in a season and scored a thousand runs in May in an English first class season, something unheard of these days.

His success is based on sound method. He plays very straight, is a quick judge of length and a beautiful timer who can drive and play square on the off side with a power out of all proportion with his slender frame. Temperament, too, has played a big part in his success. For, however much talent a batsman may possess there comes a point when success depends on how much he makes use of that talent.

From here let Michael Melford take up the narrative. "Perhaps the most convincing proof of the part played by an equable temperament is the way in which he

some great black hawk, he threw Turner out at the bowler's end. Run out 99, a few inches from a historic achievement! It was a cruel blow.

"But Turner was undeterred, even by a lively pitch at the start of his innings in the final match, against Warwickshire, and he made 133. In much the same way three seasons later he reached 1000 runs on May 31 by making 93 on a far from perfect pitch when for some days the target had seemed to be escaping him."

Turner applies himself to cricket intensely, yet he has developed an emotional remoteness which is quite remarkable. In success or failure, for himself or his side, he is unexcitable. Cricket, after all, is his business. And he is a thorough businessman.

Besides he is something of a perfectionist. He is a splendid fieldsman both close-in and in the deep. In fact wherever he goes in the field he performs brilliantly.

GLENN TURNER

by A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

(Turner) kept going under pressure to achieve his two most famous feats.

"In the last match but one of the 1970 season, against Lancashire at Worcester, he needed one more hundred for the Worcestershire record and, playing beautifully, he reached 99 in the second innings as the declaration was imminent.

"At this point the Lancashire captain set a field with only one man in front of the wicket on the off side, inviting Turner to take a single there and expedite the declaration. Turner duly tapped the ball on the off side and ran. By some oversight, however, Clive Lloyd had been left as the lone fielder there and, swooping like

To begin with his batting seemed to be all defence. He hardly seemed strong enough to push the ball off the cut area. But today he is an accomplished stroke maker, as swift a scorer as most, when the mood is on him and the situation calls for speed.

He paid his own way to England and his rise to the top was steady and inevitable. He is a fussy young man, so far as food goes, and he is fussy too at the crease. Imaginary specks of dust are forever being brushed from his pad or shirt and he goes through a familiar routine of adjustments to pad, cap and gloves before settling down for each ball.

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comfort

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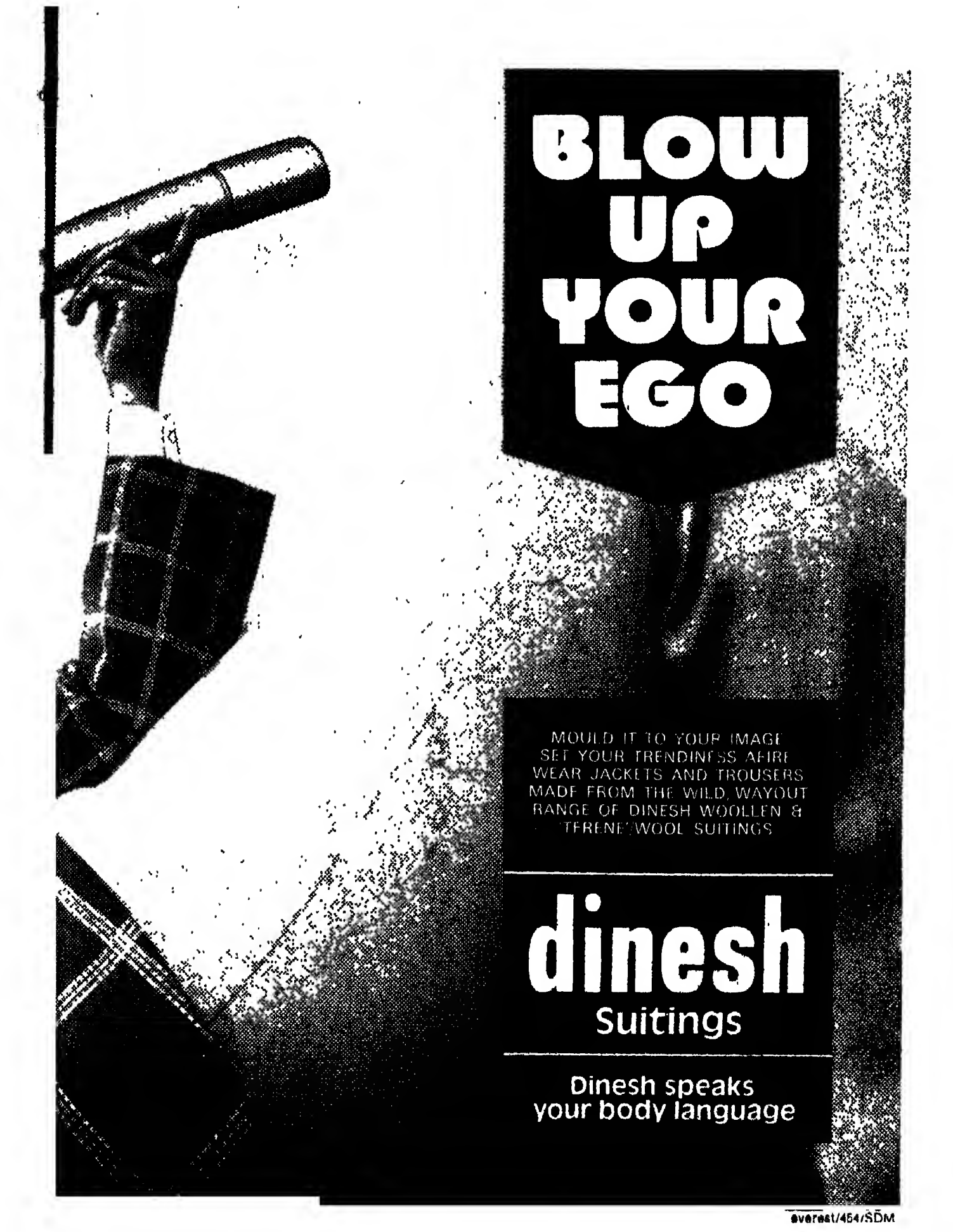
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FOOTBALL-

THE Delhi Cloth Mills Football Tournament this year was one of many twists and turns with chance, pure chance, playing a big role in the fortunes of Jullundur's Border Security Force, one of the finalists.

And eventually after BSF's two meetings with Hanyang University had drawn blank, the organisers put the fate of the cup for the first six months in the hands of the coin. And here was another big twist. Luck and chance which had played such a big role for BSF deserted them. Hanyang University who should have won the match comfortably had the consolation of winning the right to keep the Cup for the first six months. The coin had rolled wrongly for BSF.

But they had very little to complain about. In fact they should have never reached the final stage at all. For that matter they should not have figured in the quarter-final league too. But fortune smiled at them.

Indian Telephone Industries, Bangalore beat them and convin-

Twists & turns of the DCM

cingly too though the margin was a misleading 2-1, ITI walked into the league and BSF were out. But not so. Suddenly came the announcement that Calcutta's Mohammedan Sporting had withdrawn. This left a vacancy and BSF filled it though JCT Mills, Phagwara protested.

That opened the doors for BSF's entry into the final. Grabbing the chance eagerly they improved with each outing, first beating Punjab Police 1-0, then being awarded the match against JCT Mills when the latter objected to a penalty award against them. The Organising Committee gave the match to BSF who anyway were leading 2-0 at the time of the dispute. JCT withdrew (poor show by a team which draws big crowds all over the country).

Then came the group meeting between Hanyang University, the colourful Koreans and BSF. The visitors, well-equipped in all aspects but shockingly poor shooters,

won by a narrow 1-0 margin. But both Hanyang and BSF were through to the semi-finals, the Koreans having thrashed JCT Mills 3-0 and Punjab Police 1-0 to head the table.

In the other group were the two slick combinations, Pahang State XI, Malaysia and Port Authority, Bangkok. The other two teams being Indian Telephone Industries and Rajasthan Police.

In the league ITI were not the same effective combination of the knock out stage. Pahang State beat them 3-0. They managed to draw with Port Authority, Bangkok but Magan Singh laid them low with a hat-trick when they met Rajasthan Police.

The best match of this group and perhaps it was also the best match of the tournament was between Port Authority, Bangkok and Pahang State XI, Malaysia. In real give and take, the two teams played football the way it should be.



Mafatal Group's football team, winners of Bombay Harwood League, with the cup

rough and clean I wish some of our teams, particularly the robust tackling ones, learnt how to tackle without committing blatant fouls. The Malaysians and the Thais really played vintage soccer and in the fitness of things, the match ended in a draw, the teams sharing four goals.

Unfortunately in the semi-finals, Pahang State were roundly thrashed by the fast improving Border Security Force and HanYang dealt with Port Authority. Then came the final. It was an anti-climax. The Koreans just refused to score. In the second meeting the match was a bit too rough, the BSF players the guilty party. The match ended goalless.

It was a pity that Calcutta which boasts and in fact has some fine teams was not represented in this year's DCM. East Bengal refused to take part on some pretext or the other (money according to certain circles, was the cause) and Mohammedan Sporting did likewise but at a later stage.

One wonders if the Calcutta teams want to hoard their reputation, afraid to risk it in tournaments up north. It would have done them and Indian football good if say we had a match between HanYang and East Bengal or Mohammedan Sporting.

Then there was the attitude of JCT Mills. They appeared to take almost a vindictive stand against BSF. That is not a healthy sign.

--SW Correspondent



Big Two share a gold cup

THE organisers of the Second Brigade of Gorkhas Gold Cup football tournament are not likely to forget soon the harassment that Mohun Bagan put them to. All that this team had to do was to put it across East Bengal in the final. If they had, they could have kept the beautiful trophy and the players could each have gone home with a gold medal.

Instead, they squandered the many chances they received and ended up by sharing the trophy. But the organisers are now in a fix over the medals. They will have to get another set of gold medals manufactured before distributing the lot to the two teams.

But this apart, this was one of the most successfully organised tournaments I have seen. And, coming as it did after the IFA Shield, it was a tournament that caught the eye for the number and quality of participants. There were teams from Nepal and Bhutan, besides three from Delhi and two from Hyderabad. The bulk, of course, were from Calcutta.

The teams that were really unlucky were the Services teams. The Gorkha Brigade Khukri XI were a good side, but lost to 58th Gorkha Training Centre. Then, GTC lost to Aryan in the tie-breaker. The team that had the worst luck was Nagaland Police. It should have beaten George Telegraph of Calcutta, but its strikers were woefully off the mark and went down by a third minute goal.

The semi-finals were tame, though East Bengal survived a first half penalty appeal -- when the scoresheet was blank -- to beat George Telegraph 2-0. Earlier, this team had shooting practice against Moghuls of Delhi, thrashing them 9-0 to notch up the highest win in the tournament. Mohun Bagan, on the other hand, had an easy passage to the final, beating both Hyderabad Sporting Club and Aryan by the identical 4-0 margin.

The final was a tame affair. Mohun Bagan should have been two goals up within the first ten minutes, but Subhas Bhowmik muffed

both chances. At the other end, East Bengal took the initiative towards the end of the first session and early in the second and had two gilt-edged chances. But Mohun Bagan came into the game again -- and again missed a couple of easy chances. They were clearly the superior outfit -- but the record books will only say that the final ended in a draw.

Extra time was not played at the insistence of the two teams. It was unfortunate that the organisers had to bow to such pressures. However, it was good to see both teams as happy as they were after the IFA Shield final ended in the same manner. Perhaps next time the organisers will be able to muster up enough courage to insist on a replay or extra time.

The next time should also see the top teams from Punjab, Bombay and Goa in action, beside the honours of the trophy, the Brigade of Gorkhas from Hongkong. Only then will this 'A' class tournament be elevated to the super class.

-- ARIJIT SEN

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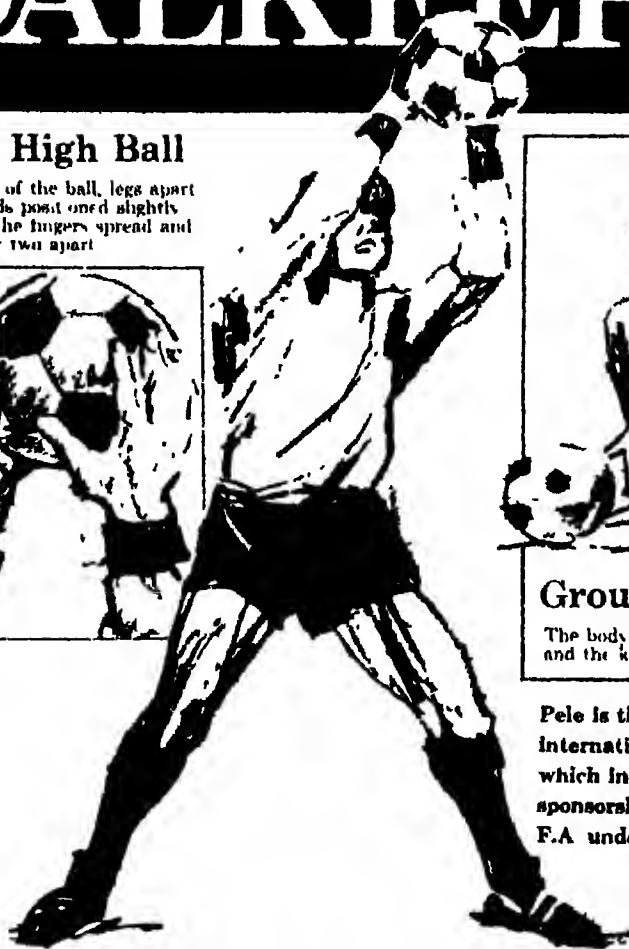
Pele: The Master and His Method

GOALKEEPING

Adaptation: Ken Taylor

Catching a High Ball

Body facing the flight of the ball, legs apart for firm balance. Hands positioned slightly behind the ball, with the fingers spread and the thumbs an inch or two apart.



Ground Balls

The body is lowered, with the feet and the knees backing up the hands.

Pele is the leader of Pepsi Cola's international youth soccer program and which includes a near £100,000 sponsorship of the English School's F.A. under-16 competition.

Chest-High shots

The hands grasp the front of the ball, pulling it into the chest.



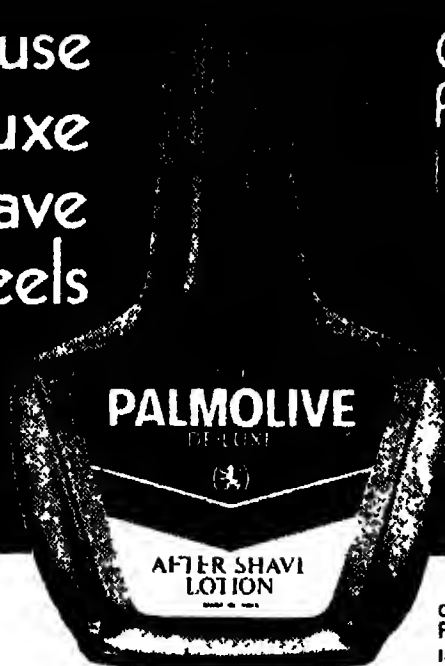
Diving Saves



As soon as the ball is caught, the outstretched arms are rapidly lowered so that the ball touches the ground first. The goalkeeper lands on his forearm with the ball firmly grasped between the hands.

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RECORD BOOK

THE Segrave Trophy is awarded annually for outstanding achievements by a British subject on land, sea or in the air. The magnificent trophy is a lasting memorial to a man who did so much to put the British motor industry on a competitive basis with other countries.

Henry O'Neal De Hane Segrave, born in America of Irish parents but educated and reared in England, packed more remarkable achievements into his short life of 34 years than most men would ever dream of attempting.

His was a life of speed. Segrave's one obsessive aim was to travel faster than other men and his name and deeds figure prominently in the dramatic story of the world's land speed record.

One date in that thrilling chronicle should be printed in red. It records the breaking of "the 200 mile-an-hour barrier," one of the most important milestones in the

An obsession for speed

history of motoring. It happened on March 29, 1927.

Major H O D Segrave, pilot in the Royal Flying Corps during the First World War, joined the Sunbeam Car Company hoping to appease his appetite for speed. His hopes were realised. In 1925 he made his first attempt to achieve a new land speed record, in competition with Malcolm Campbell and Perry Thomas.

Southport Sands, in Lancashire, was then the most favoured "track" for speed attempts and it was here that Segrave first put his name on the list of world's land speed record breakers. In 1926 he pushed the record up to 152.33 miles an

hour. His record lasted only a few weeks, however, and he had to start all over again.

Segrave realised, however, that no real progress could be made on the tide-affected sands at Southport. He decided to make further attempts on Daytona Beach, Florida, U.S.A. Meanwhile, he had helped to design, build and test a powerful new car.

It was a revelation. Powered by twin engines generating 1,000 horse power, it resembled a huge, bulk-nosed red beetle, for it had little of the modern streamlining techniques in its construction. But it proved successful and Henry Segrave became the first man in the world to travel on land at more than 200 miles an hour.

His average speed over the two measured runs at Daytona Beach was 203.79. History was made on that March day in 1927.

— DAVID HENDERSON

Cricketers of the week—24 & 25

BIRTHS

November 7: E G Arnold (Eng) 1877

November 9: J Hardstaff (Eng) 1882, F A Van der Merwe (A.A.) 1901, J Greenbough (Eng) 1931, F M Missinn (Aus) 1938, J N Sheppard (W.I.) 1943

November 11: T V Parthasarathi (Ind) 1916, R S Modi (Ind) 1924, T Meale (N.Z.) 1928, S M Nurse (W.I.) 1933, R C Fredricks (W.I.) 1942, Niaz Ahmed (Pak) 1945, R W Marsh (Aus) 1947

November 12: A D Nurse — Jr — (S.A.) 1910

November 13: J M Neblett (W.I.) 1901, J Bukenshaw (Eng) 1940

November 14: H Larwood (Eng) 1904, A E Moss (Eng) 1930

November 15: C S Dempster (N.Z.) 1903, R S Grant (W.I.) 1909

November 16: C T B Turner (Aus) 1862, D R O'Sullivan (N.Z.) 1944

November 17: A G Chipperfield (Aus) 1905, B Sutcliffe (N.Z.) 1923, C C McDonald (Eng) 1928

November 18: R J Jamshedji (Ind) 1892

November 19: R C Brancker (W.I.) 1937, R Dumbrill (S.A.) 1938

November 20: W A White (W.I.) 1938

DEATHS

November 9: A T W Grout (Aus) 1968

November 14: C K Nayudu (Ind) 1957

November 15: A S Kennedy (Eng) 1959

November 17: A C McLaren (Eng) 1944

November 19: Hon F S Calthrope (Eng) 1935


— K ISWARA DUTT

GLAXO, a world renowned pharmaceutical organisation, has embarked on a quiz contest in collaboration with SPORTSWEEK for its well known brand of Glaxo-D which is used by all sportsmen throughout the country to give them extra energy and replenish the energy used up in all their sports activities.

The Quiz is for a correct comparison of the faces of some of our Test cricketers as they look today with what they looked like when they were very small boys.

With the coming Test series against New Zealand and England, this contest is expected to create tremendous enthusiasm among all cricket lovers.





*will he?
won't he?
will he?
won't he?
will he?
won't he?
will he wear my favourite Modi Suit tonight?*

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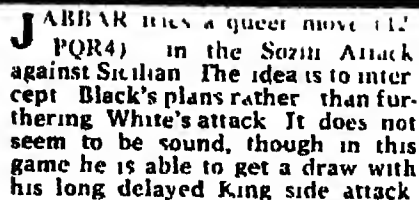
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14 NK2, NxB 15 PΔN, POR4 16
NB1, BK3 17 NQ3, 00 18 RB1,
QN2 19 NN3, PN3 20 RK1, KRΔ1
21 BN5, NK1 (c) 22 RxR', RΔR
23 BxR, QxB 24 PR4 (f) PB3 25
PB5, BB2 26 NB2, OB2 27 PxP
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by JIMMY MEHTA

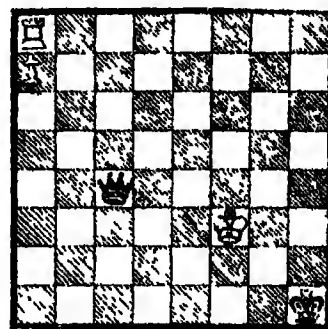
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DAMON RUNYON, who was a legend in his lifetime and who has an honoured place amongst the immortals of sports writing, often stated that he had squandered his not inconsiderable earnings on fast women and slow horses. Although he was undoubtedly knowledgeable about horses his approach to wagering was casual and that is the pitfall of the majority of punters.

Betting on horses is business, big business at that. And it requires planning, self-restraint and the capacity to sustain losses to make it pay. The longer the purse, the greater the pleasure and the more is discarded the approach the richer is the harvest.

Betting systems are as numerous as there are horses in a race. Some are practical, some are unscientific, some are based on astrology, numerology and what have you, most are fanciful. They appeal to the punter who is out to make a fast buck. He learns the hard way. It may be fun, expensive fun no doubt, to learn from your own experience, it is prudent to learn from that of other people.

The best way to make racing pay is to make a short list of follow horses and to wager on them systematically. The irrepressible wit will have it that the best way to follow a horse is with a spade and bucket, you are certain to pick up something. Wagering is not a joking matter and so let's have a serious look at it.

Having made out a list of horses to follow, how do you set about betting? The naive suggest that you double your stake each time. If you do so and if you have a long run of bad luck you will find that it is the shortest road to the poor house. Unfortunately, the sanest way to follow horses is at fixed odds. This eliminates the small tote punter as tote prices are variable, being decided by the flow of the betting.

It is prudent to decide how much you wish to win on each of your follow horses, and the figure you arrive at will naturally depend on the strength of your resources. It is important not to overreach yourself and in this context it is better

Betting's big business

to underestimate your ability to sustain losses.

Having decided what you wish to win you lay your stake according to the price available. When you have more than one follow horse in the same race, be influenced by the runner who is better suited to the distance or if you are undecided in your own mind it is best to put your hands in your pockets and keep them there.

You now have a basic understanding of the most sensible way to make your racing pay. A short list of horses to follow is appended for your guidance. It is an expert opinion, but use your own judgment. After all, it is your money!

BOMBAY. Burnt Amber, Coat of Arms, Czardas, Gallant Gorkh, Goodwill, Ibra, Jamshid, Midnight Blue, Thunderball and Tudor Moss.

BANGALORE. Our Poonam, High Admiral, Lady Hanover, Lively Lady, Mercedes, Regal Glory, Rialto, Riddle, Taj Rossi and Three Little Words.

MADRAS. Burd Royal, Caterina, Cradle-Top, Dream Merchant, Fondant, Gretel, Mighty Plan, Recall Republican and Tolin Bronze.

CALCUTTA. Daytime Hustler, Far Superior, Irma La Douce, Kaka Son, Pink Gin, Rani Jani, Salome, Spellbinder, Sundance Kid and The Sting.

How much do you know?

by HOSEY MISTRY

Which chess pieces can cross a square occupied by another piece?

2 As a hockey umpire what will be your signal for time stopped?

3 A wide ball is declared, and the ball goes to the slip fielder who on seeing the batsman out of the crease breaks the wicket, is the batsman out, if so, how?

4 What is the duration of the interval between rounds of a boxing bout?

5 When does service change hands in table tennis?

6 What is the duration of a water polo match?

7 If a squash player suffers interference from or distraction by his opponent, on the opinion of the referee, is thus prevented from making a winning return what shall be the referee's decision?

ANSWERS

1 The Rook when castling and the Knight. 2 Turn towards the other umpire and/or time-keeper and cross fully extended arms at the wrist above the head. 3 The batsman is run out. 4 One minute. 5 Every five points, and after each serve after the score 20 all. 6 Four periods of five minutes each of actual play with two minutes interval between periods. 7 The suffered player shall be awarded the stroke.



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BUZZING AROUND

by BUSYBEE

I t is true that a large number of Indians have suddenly lost interest in cricket and the Wankhede Stadium (named after Mr Wankhede) was not full when India played New Zealand last week

Among the people who did not want to witness the Test were my two sons Darryl and Derek.

On the Sunday of the Test, when all the expert cricket correspondents were saying that the match will take an interesting turn, I told my sons "I have with great difficulty managed to get two tickets for you. You can go and watch the Test now."

Darryl, my elder son said "In school, they were giving the tickets away free and nobody wanted to go."

I said "I am not interested in what they were doing in your school. I got the tickets through a friend who is a member of the BCA and I had to pay double the money since it is for a Sunday."

Derek, my younger son, said "If you had asked us we would have got you any number of tickets and you would not have had to pay any money for it also. One man wanted to give me his pass for a seat along with the team selectors, but I said nothing doing."

I said "I do not care what you told this man who offered you a pass next to Raj Singh, but I had to work three days in order to make enough money to buy these tickets for you. So you had better go and watch the game today. Everybody says the wicket will start taking spin first thing in the morning and it will be a day of thrilling cricket."

"Those who want to sell their tickets are saying that," said Darryl. "You should never listen to interested parties. I feel sorry for those who are going to watch play today."

"Then start feeling sorry for yourselves," I said. "For, in order to get these tickets for you at the last moment, I had to take this BCA man out for drinks and dinner and spent a small fortune on him. And you are not going to waste my money by not going. And I can tell you it is going to be a day of heroic deeds and you will be grateful to me for having arranged for you to see it."

Derek said "Nothing will happen today, you can take it from me."

If anything interesting was going to happen, they would not be giving away 20,000 tickets free to schools and not one student accepting them."

I said "You will accept. Three days I had to roam all over Bombay in order to get my hands on the tickets. And the amount of time I wasted going from friend to friend, begging them to help me get the tickets. Now, please, get ready, for it is time for play to start."

"I have got a lot of studies to catch up with," said Derek. "And I do not know why you had to beg, when it has come in all the papers that the stadium is half empty and the authorities would be obliged if you will go and buy daily tickets from them."

I said "I have never known behaviour like this. Here I have deposited money one year in advance on the off chance that somebody may give me just two tickets so that my sons may have the pleasure of watching cricket, and you refuse."

Darryl said "You should have never paid in advance like this. Always find out what sort of a team is coming to India and then think of buying a ticket."

"Very well," I said "if you do not want to go, I will go and watch the Test. And I am sure I will enjoy it very much."

Derek said "With people like you, interest in cricket will never die in India."

Q WHAT do you think of India's victory in the first Test against New Zealand?

—L. J. D'Souza (Bombay)

A DARRYL earned. And Dame Fortune was on our side.

Q I find that the abilities of G. R. Viswanath are not as much admired as those of Gavaskar. Why so?

—B. V. R. Swami (Cuttack)

A NOT true. Anyone who can't admire the aesthetic beauty of Viswanath's batting must be blind as a bat.

Q WHO is the more dangerous bowler between Thomson and Holding?

—Maneshinder Bahadur (Patiala)

A IT is like asking to choose between the devil and the deep sea.

Q WHAT has happened to Abid Ali, the iron man of Indian cricket?

—Narendra S. Chaudhary (Simbhaoli, Meerut)

A THE selectors seem to feel he has gone a bit rusty, though he is steely as ever.

QUESTION BOX

Q COULD you please tell us how many centuries and half centuries have been scored by Gavaskar and Viswanath so far?

—H. Pantia & B. Chatterjee (Calcutta)

A GAVASKAR has scored nine centuries and eleven half centuries and Viswanath four centuries and 13 half centuries till the end of the first Test against New Zealand.

Q IS Sudhakar Rao a left hander or a right-hander?

—A. Rajagopal & Shanker Iyer (Kanpur)

A A right hander who is now a left-outer.

Q HOW many runs did Gavaskar score when he assisted the World XI against Australia in 1971/72 and what was his highest?

—Arun & Iswar Srivastava (Calcutta-13)

A GAVASKAR played in all the five "Tests". In ten innings, once not out, he scored 257

runs at an average of 28.55. His highest was 68 not out in the second innings of the fourth match of the series.

Q IS a batsman out if, while he is trying to hook, the ball hits him on the body and then rolls over the wicket?

—S. Viswanath (Bombay)

A YES, provided the wicket is broken.

Q WHO is the cricketer referred to as 'The Doctor'?

—Padma, Sunita, Uma (Bombay-54)

A THE immortal Dr. W. G. Grace.

Q WHO were the winners and runners up at the Wimbledon tennis championships between 1957 and 1961?

—P. G. Ponnappa (Jabalpur)

A MEN'S singles 1957 L. A. Hoad, A. J. Cooper. 1958, A. J. Cooper, N. A. Fraser. 1959, A. Olmedo, R. Laver. 1960 N. A. Fraser, R. Laver. 1961 R. Laver. C. R. McKinley. Women 1957 Miss A. Gibson, Miss D. R. Hard. 1958 Miss A. Gibson, Miss A. McRumey. 1959 Miss M. E. Bueno, Miss D. R. Hard. 1960 Miss F. E. Bueno. Miss S. Reynolds. 1961 Miss A. Worthington, Miss C. C. Truman.

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SAAMR 59

All set for the bonanza

THE tennis bonanza of the year, the Grand Prix Championships of India 1976, opens this week in Bangalore after the conclusion of the qualifying rounds which will add four more players to the draw, which will in all have 32 players. The list includes two from the 'special exemption' category and two 'wild cats,' one of them being Ramanathan Krishnan.

It's not a joke to organise such a big tournament where the total prize money runs into 50,000 dollars, plus the air travel tickets to the players and hotel accommodations and so many other expenses. It requires guts, a lot of courage, organisational skills and above all a love for the sport. And the Kar

natika State Lawn Tennis Association have all those requirements.

KSLTA president A. B. Eswar, who is also the Grand Prix Tournament Director, told pressmen that the government had come in a big way to help them with a grant of Rs 10 lakhs and the Corporation had pooled in Rs 2 lakhs. The rest will come through donors and through the souvenir which is being brought out.

This is a one star tournament as compared to the two, three, four and five star grands prix and hence the absence of the world's best. But then the players who will be seen in action are certainly the world's best of the future, some of them having already toppled

some top player or the other in previous grands prix.

The 20 already accepted are Vijay Amritraj, Ray Ruffels, Geoff Masters, Dick Crealey and Kim Warwick (all from Australia), Tim Glickson, Mike Estep, John Whitlinger and Steve Turner (US), Russell Simpson (New Zealand), John Bartlett (US), Bob Carmichael (Australia), Gene Mayer (US), Emilio Montano (Spain), Mike Cahill (US), Paul Kronk (US), Anand Amritraj, Sashi Menon, George Hardie and Cliff Letcher (US).

Entries have been pouring in for the qualifying round. There were nearly 70 at the time of going to press and by the time this article appears they will be pruned down to a sizeable 48. The entries include Saeed Meer the promising Pakistan Davis Cup player.

The tournament secretary will be Mrs. Leela Shantamallappa of Karnataka who has done a wonderful job in that position in the women's tournament recently.

India Rubber Manufacturers have generously donated 10 dozen 'Matchless' balls for the tournament free of cost and Bharat Electronics, Bangalore are donating an electronic score board.

— R. ARVINDAM

Four Square boost for Nationals

SOME of the best players who will participate in the Grand Prix at Bangalore, along with the cream of the country's tennis talent will be seen in action during the National Tennis Championships to be conducted by the Maharashtra State Lawn Tennis Association at the newly laid Bombay Gymkhana lawn tennis courts from December 13.

Bombay will have some firsts to their credit during the championships which will be sponsored by M/s Godfrey Phillips, makers of Four Square Kings who have contributed sizeably towards this game and hockey in the past. It will be the first occasion when the Nationals will be held in Bombay and the only time when the matches will be played on grass courts in the city.

The sponsors, besides providing the prize money and also the major burden of the expenditure for the championships, will also award scholarships to tennis players and will sponsor the Western India, Maharashtra State and the All India Hard Courts Championship to be held at Hyderabad.



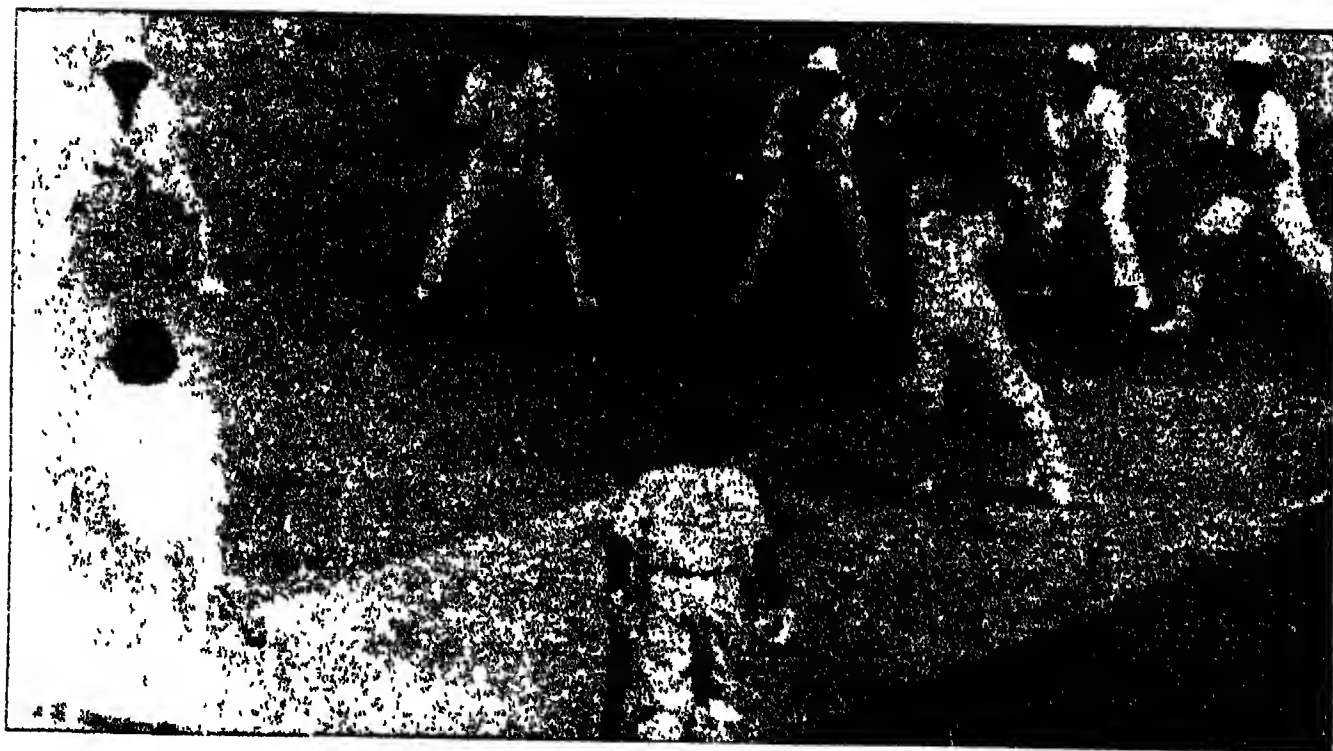
Vijay Amritraj can he repeat his Calcutta triumph

The shape of disaster

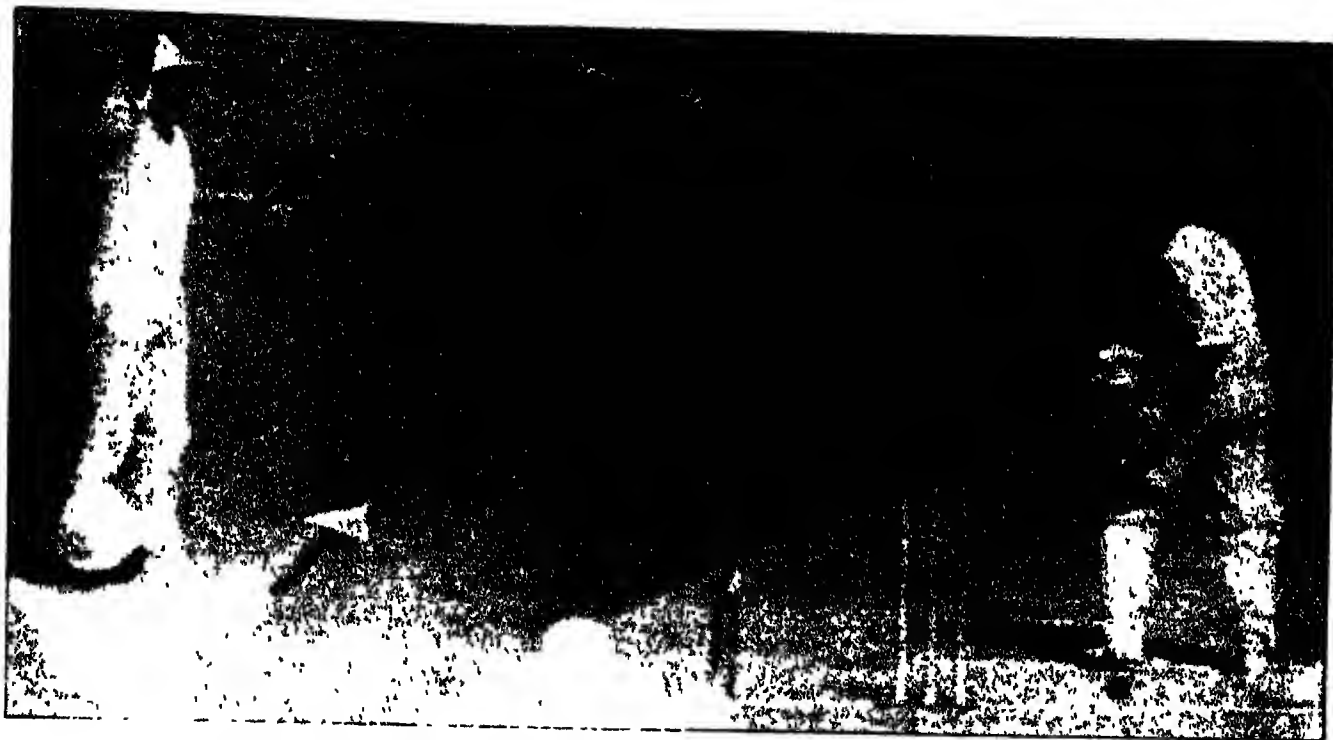
The Indian middle-order batsmen failed in the first innings. Here is a pictorial account of their poor show



Ashok Mankad tried to pull Hadlee only to give the bowler an easy return catch
Six pairs of Kiwi eyes follow the ball as Hadlee prepares to take the catch



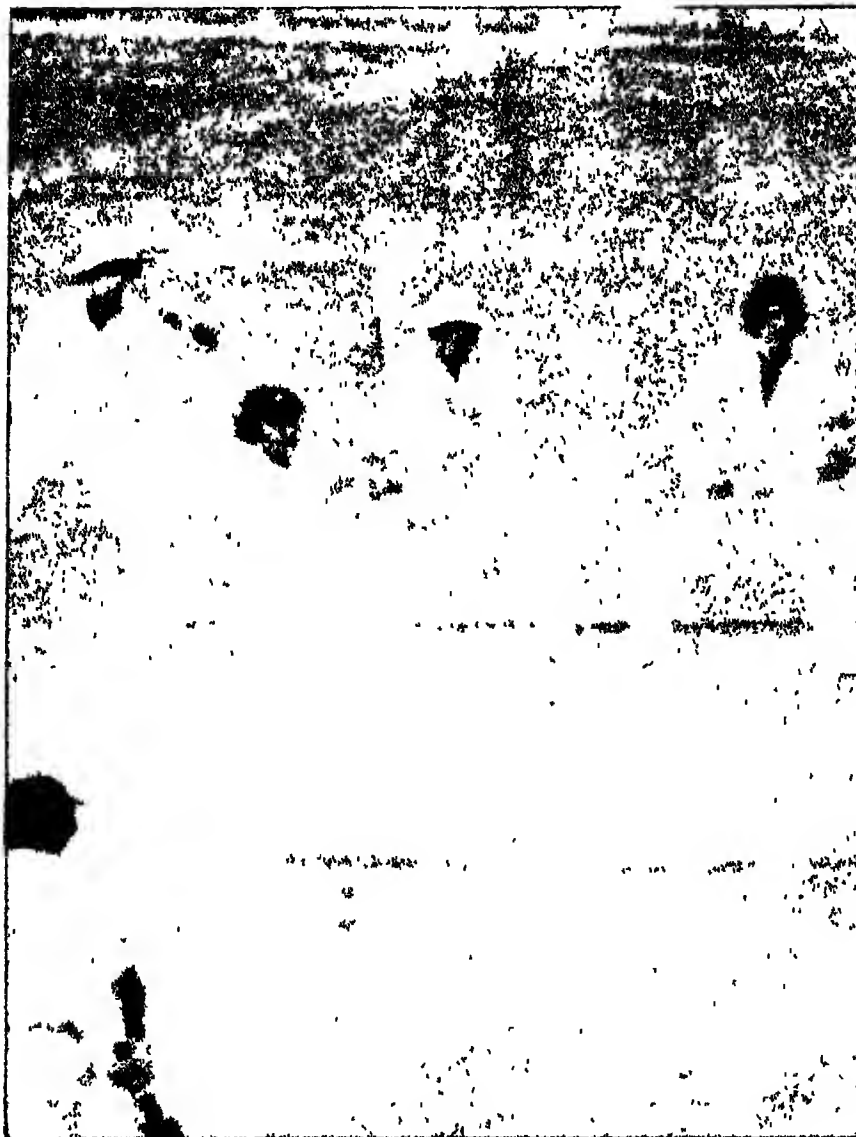
Madan Lal went for a square cut against Hadlee with his head in the air and paid the penalty



Brjesh Patel failed to stop a sharp incutter from Cairns that rolled on to his stumps off the inside edge of his bat (top). Viswanath attempted to cut Petherick and saw his bails dislodged



Hurricane Brijesh



After a slowish start in the second innings Brijesh Patel exploded into brilliance driving O'Sullivan (above) and pulling Hadlee (left)



Syed Kirman who brought respectability to India's middle-order batting in the first innings, sweeps O'Sullivan



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John Parker

John Parker

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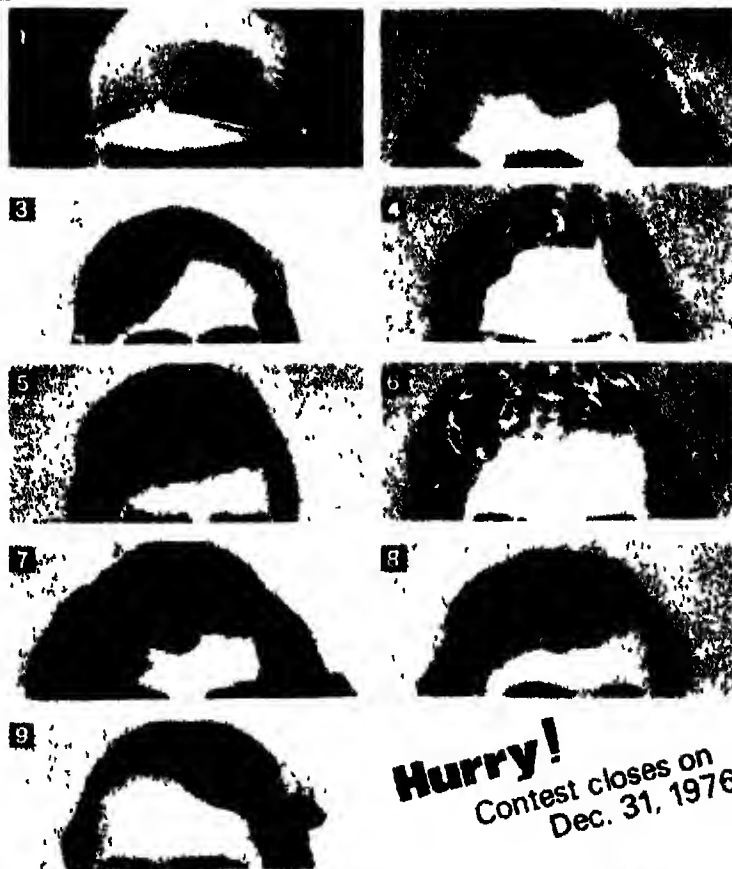
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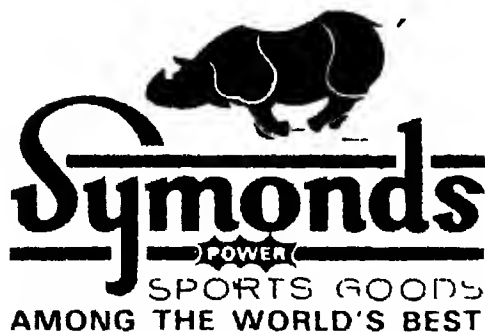
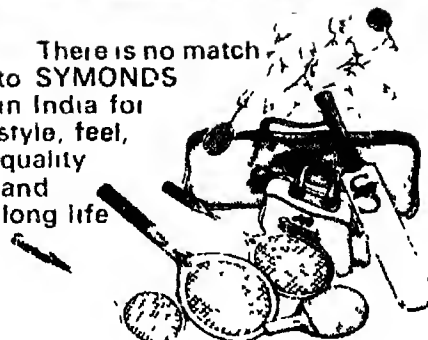
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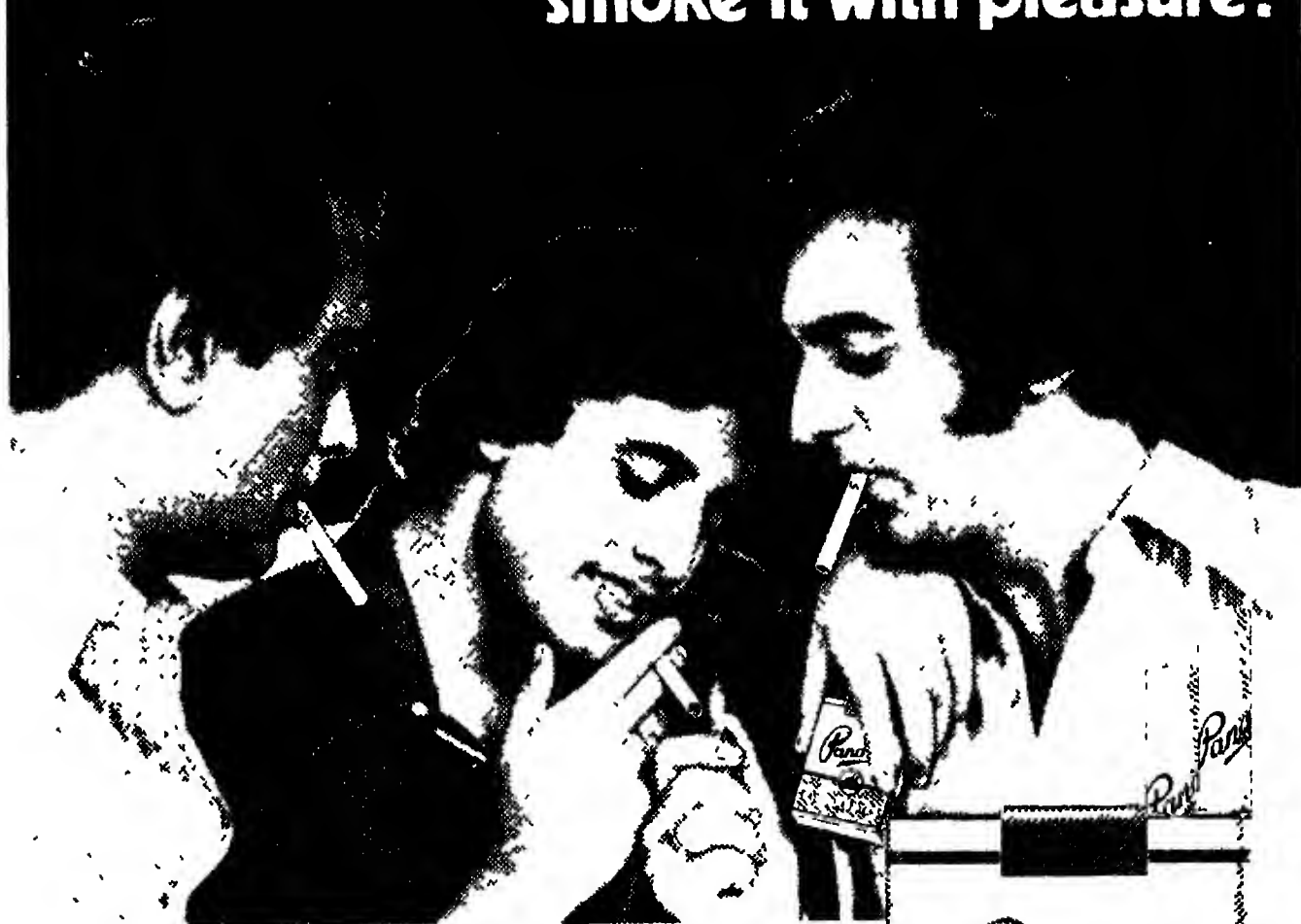
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HITTING OUT... KHALID ANSARI

Of senseless selections, umpiring controversies & players' 'unions'

HURRY Get a head-shrinker—fast The national cricket selectors appear to be going bonkers.

If the senseless selection, and immediate dropping, of Chetan Chauhan was laughable in the extreme — he was not even called upon to field as a substitute when Ramnath Parkar who was not in the selected 14 was required to do so — the scurvy treatment meted out to the young, deserving, talented Dilip Vengsarkar after the Kanpur Test is asinine and violates all canons of justice. But Nemesis, in our affairs, cricketing at any rate, has see-through blindfolds and false scales. It's time the charming ladies of the Consumer's Guidance Society did something about this!

SPORTSWEEK makes bold to charge the selectors of being in the process of ruining the promising career of Vengsarkar as they did that of Ramnath Parkar. In fact, the number of careers ruined by the thoughtless, unsympathetic, politically motivated decisions of selectors, past and present, is legion. For this, the finger of suspicion points unhesitatingly in the direction of our venerable "inquisitors".

Karsan Ghavri, too, would have gone the way of "all cricketing flesh" but for his gritty, outstanding performances with bat and ball this season which has virtually compelled the selectors to recall the allrounder after he had been cruelly sidelined in the series against Sri Lanka last year when total nonentities, some of them with their best years far, far behind them, were tried out supposedly with an eye to the future. All this, as is known, after Ghavri had been hailed as the 'find' of the season the previous year in the series against the West Indies.

But of one thing the selectors cannot be accused of making available to the maximum number of players the enhanced match allowance of Rs 3,000 to the players and Rs. 2,000 to the reserves. A laudable objective, indeed, in our socialistic pattern of society!

ONLY the brazenly partisan will grudge the plucky, though depleted, New Zealanders full marks for the glorious manner in which they fought back to save the Kanpur Test, thereby keeping interest in the series alive. To that extent, SPORTSWEEK's prediction last week that the Kiwis, although a mediocre team, will be no push-overs has been proved correct, for the time being at any rate. We had commiserated with the visitors in the Bombay Test in that some of the umpiring decisions, the enervating heat and the unsporting behaviour of the spectators had contributed, in some measure, to their defeat.

But, sad to say, our assessment of the visitors as being a 'sporting' side, has been proved incorrect.

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COVER: John Parker, New Zealand cricket team's vice captain Transparency Gopal Bhat.

Following protests and displays of anger in Bombay, the tantrums of the visitors in Kanpur over at least two umpiring decisions and their unprecedented and unsporting action in refusing to join the Indian team at lunch sets this team light years apart from Graham Dowling's 1969 team of 'gentlemen' which Kiwi cricketers have traditionally been. It appears to this writer that the luncheon episode was an exercise in gamesmanship which succeeded in its objective if one is to accept the version of the Indian players who themselves had cause to complain against the umpiring after lunch on that last day.

Controversial decisions, more often the result of human error rather than partiality, are an inevitable part of the game and will continue to be so even if the proposal to appoint neutral umpires is implemented.

There are ways and means of expressing protest, of ensuring redress of grievances in a gentlemen's game called cricket. But then, many of the members of Glenn Turner's party are professionals, schooled to play the game the hard way. Signs of the times, really, these ravages caused by the god Mammon.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India, however, would do well to review the panel of Test umpires some of who, although among the world's best at one time, are now past their prime. And at least one umpire is well over the retirement age but is said to be retained on the panel at the insistence of his State association.

THE developments in Pakistan vis-a-vis the Cr-

Control Board and the six cricketers said to be accused of 'trade unionism' are rather akin to the situation that obtains here. We learn from reliable sources that similar circumstances govern the Board's seemingly grudging appointment of Bedi as skipper which is hardly conducive to confidence, morale and team-spirit. Now appointed captain only for the third Test against New Zealand, Bedi has done enough with bat and ball — he now heads both averages — and as captain, as he had done in New Zealand and the West Indies, to merit selection as India captain for all five Tests against England who will certainly be a different kettle of fish as compared with the Kiwis. Bedi has the added advantage of having regularly played with and against the members of the England party in the County championships.

It appears the Board is taking a dim view of
continued on page 42

THE KANPUR TEST

Kiwi backs to wall

NEW ZEALAND had to fight hard to draw the second Test at Kanpur and it took a two-hour unbeaten stand at the end between Warren Lees and David O'Sullivan to deny India another win. This means the series is still alive and the Kiwis at least have a chance to square the rubber at Madras.

Once again the tourists were most disappointed at the umpiring, especially on the last day and this time manager Murray Chapple went as far as to issue a press statement "While we don't claim to be a great Test side we believe our performance has been made to look somewhat worse than it has been by incompetent umpiring in the first two Tests. Mistakes will always be made, but the unfortunate thing from our point of view is that we have had to endure some very dubious decisions at vital times. This has not only had a detrimental effect on the game but also on the relations between the two teams."

Chapple said he hoped for far higher umpiring standards at Madras and said he would have rejected all four umpires seen so far had any of them been named for Madras. He declined to comment on individual decisions but clearly all the Kiwis thought that giving Glenn Turner caught from his toe was the worst. Others were ill-willed and caught decisions, perhaps five of them in the game against one or may be two dubious decisions against India.

Once again the loss of the toss was a terrible blow to New Zealand. Normally losing a toss does not matter too much and you win as many as you lose. But this current New Zealand team has lost the toss in every single Test on this tour of Pakistan and India.

They have gone out to bowl for four or five sessions on pitches which are unresponsive to any sort of bowling — pace bowling especially. Then after four or five sessions of bowling and fielding in heat and humidity and facing totals of 400 or more, sometimes over 500, the Kiwis have been expected to go out and bat like demons on pitches which are already aiding the spinners.

If this happened occasionally or even every second Test the Kiwis might have been able to put up some sort of show. But on this tour it has happened in every single Test and it is little wonder

the touring team is getting somewhat despondent about the whole thing.

So India went out to bat on the Green Park pitch that seemed full of runs and with little difficulty compiled their 524 for nine with no batsman scoring more than 70 but no fewer than six reaching 50. I wonder if that has happened before in 100 years of Test cricket.

Sunil Gavaskar was not as dominant as at Bombay. Perhaps Turner's field placing cut off some of his stronger shots but Anshuman Gaekwad and Mohinder Amarnath

by DICKY RUTNAGUR

both batted better than in their first Test as did Viswanath later in the innings.

Turner and Hadlee hoped to catch Amarnath on the hook to fine leg and he certainly played the shot they predicted he would. But unfortunately for Turner he played the shot perfectly and the ball sailed right over Gary Troup's head for six.

Three Indians missed straight balls to be bowled. Gavaskar falling to a chinaman from O'Sullivan which spun a bit. After that Ashok Mankad, Kirmani and Karan Ghavri all batted well, not to mention Bedi who seemed to think he was Barry Richards or Clive Lloyd.

The Kiwi spinners bowled better in this innings than earlier on the tour, getting their line more accurate, tying down the batsmen for periods and bowling to their fields.

Then Turner hit his seventh Test century when the Kiwis battered beating the national record of six that he previously shared with Bevan Congdon and John Reid—he has scored them in 37 Tests. Gavaskar has scored nine centuries in 26 Tests.

John Parker and Mark Burgess have been criticised for failing to deep catches off Bedi. Against this one can argue that the Indian spinners must be attacked somewhere along the line by someone if they are not to dominate totally.

The middle order failed to capitalise on the early score of 220 for 2 and it took a last wicket stand between Andy Roberts, who is maturing into a Test batsman of some class, and Peter Petherick, who made his top first class score of 13 with his first ever off side boundary, to get the innings up to 350.

Roberts has amused both the Indian and Kiwi teams with his joking and humour and some crowds have also sampled his fun. But he is a good player of spin and he may have been unlucky with decisions in both innings at Bombay and his



The New Zealanders take the field again on the first day of a Test... Glenn Turner losing his fifth toss in a row

medium-paced bowling has been useful on this tour where none of the other batsmen can be regarded as a bowler.

Despite the spin that Petherick and O'Sullivan were getting Turner was unable to set attacking fields in India's second innings. This frustrated the New Zealanders for they probably could have taken some wickets. But run saving was the sole aim in this innings and the field simply had to be set deep.

Late on the fourth day the interest was Viswanath's hundred. The Kiwis were bitterly criticised here for time-wasting but in fact they bowled overs quickly and a Test century has to be earned.

The fielding side at any time has the right to take time to set fields carefully. In the final over of the day when Viswanath got his hundred, Troup twice stopped at the bowling crease and did not deliver the ball. This was not time-wasting. Gaekwad was backing up out of his crease and could have been run out. I wonder what people would have said if he had been run out at 4-48 p.m. and play had ended at the fall of his wicket with Viswanath 99 not out. Such a thing did not happen but if Gaekwad was out of his ground New Zealand had a right to tell him so.

Another interesting view was that of a radio commentator who said Hadlee should be warned for bowling bumpers. He should read the laws of cricket. Unless bowled at non-recognised batsmen, bumpers are illegal only when they are designed to intimidate. That is in the laws Hadlee's bumpers were over the stumps or outside the off and were meant only to stop Gaekwad and Viswanath scoring quick runs. There was no chance of them being hit in most cases. If India prepares slow wickets that make a good fast bowler like Hadlee (he took his tally to 50 wickets in this game in just 14 Tests) look like medium-pace then India has got to accept defensive bumpers of the type Hadlee bowled on the fourth day.

The Kiwis lost regular wickets on the last day and were in big trouble at 134 for seven shortly before tea. But at least the pitch was getting slower and slower and none of the Indian spin trio was making the ball jump nastily. There was no comment from the Indian camp on the umpiring but Indians must be disturbed at some of the decisions here and at Bombay.

They were not good. Let us now look forward to a good game at Madras with a clear cut decision and a hope that the good relations between the two sides are strained no more.



The Indian players being introduced to UP Governor Chenna Reddy. From left: Gaekwad, Patel, Mankad, Ghavri, Amarnath.

India well on top

by LALA AMARNATH

INDIA failed to clinch a victory over New Zealand at Kanpur when at one stage they looked set to repeat their feat at Bombay. But Warren Lees and David O'Sullivan, Nos 7 and 9 in the tourists' batting order, defied the Indian spinners with determined and disciplined batting. However, India confirmed their superiority over this New Zealand side.

The wicket was slow, so slow in fact that the New Zealand last batsman Peter Petherick played with considerable ease. But it was good to see India do well with the bat and the ball. In the past India's batting has proved brittle even in favourable conditions and ordinary bowlers have gone home with flattering figures. But this time all our batsmen, except Brij

jesh Patel, struck form and showed good concentration in building up a big total.

Bedi did India well by winning the toss. Then Gavaskar and Gaekwad got the side off to a good start. The Indians batted like true professionals this time. Mohinder Amarnath used the hook well but he must learn to hit the ball at a lower point of its descent and when it is nearer his left shoulder. Viswanath, Kirmani and to my great surprise Bedi, carried on the good work.

Of the New Zealand batsmen, Turner, John Parker and Burgess fell to poor shots after getting set. Andy Roberts looked a very sound batsman and skipper Turner, while he was in, shone like the mid-day sun.

In India's second innings it was Viswanath all the way. What a magnificent innings he played. Gaekwad was lucky but plucky. I thought Turner erred in giving his spin bowlers such long spells. A seam bowler should have been kept on at one end as wickets were not of any great importance to the tourists. The faster bowlers might have contained Viswanath more effectively.

I thought Lees and O'Sullivan provided an object lesson to their teammates in the second innings. Too many of the earlier batsmen threw away their wickets attempting rash strokes.

Bedi did a great job as captain besides taking on the lion's share of the bowling. As the match wore on the wicket seemed to become slower and slower and the Indian spinners were not able to effect a final breakthrough.



Viswanath super knock

Super Viswanath

by ALAN GRAHAM

(of the New Zealand Press, Wellington, now touring with the New Zealand team)

WATCHING a cricket match is so much like reading a good book — the plot and ending are subservient to good prose. As such a cricket match without an exhibition of skilful batting is unsatisfying. Regardless of all else, I shall emplane for Madras well satisfied for in the drawn second Test I have savoured one of the finest performances of a great contemporary batsman — Gundappa Viswanath.

His fifth Test century did not matter to India's cause because India were seeking time and not runs to win the second Test against New Zealand. But a declaration would have served no purpose such was the gloom cast by an amalgam of low cloud and smoke from the chimneys of the adjacent mills that a declaration would have led only to an early closure of the day's play with New Zealand justifiably appealing against the light.

Truly Green Park on Sunday evening was more a bleak setting for a spine-chilling horror movie than a great Test innings which is what Viswanath played. The sheer brilliance of the little man's batting was a challenge for Richard Hadlee to bowl as he had not done before in the series but Viswanath rose to counter him and Anshuman Gaekwad, who had given two early

chances, played a supporting role that also merited an Oscar.

But now that we have spoken of the pleasures provided by this match let us seek an explanation why India did not clinch the issue against a side which by self-admission is not great and which blatantly exhibited its limitations.

New Zealand's batting did not let them down after India made 524 in the first innings — the feat of scoring more than 500 having been accomplished by India no more than four times in 44 years of Test cricket.

After all the Kiwis do possess two world class batsmen which is not a luxury enjoyed by all the countries that play at international level. But New Zealand live in fear that one or both will not come off and the attitude of India's batsmen is based on this fear too.

New Zealand's seam attack is picked on the merits of the bowlers being able to make runs at number six and seven and any side that relies on the bits-and-pieces cricketers is not a good side.

Within their limitations India's batsmen did enough to win this Test match and India would most likely have won had bad light not cut short Saturday's play by 48 minutes and compelled India to

bat longer than they needed to on Sunday.

But a good side, a winning side, rises above handicaps. Why did India not push home their advantage? In retrospect it seems that India should not have allowed New Zealand to prolong their first innings resistance as long as they did.

At the first signs of O'Sullivan, the number nine, digging himself in, the second new ball should have been taken if only to allow the tired spinners to bowl with a more resilient ball. The delay in taking it allowed New Zealand to bat until after lunch on the fourth day. No sooner was it taken than the stubborn last man Peter Petherick was out — caught behind off a ball that bounced more than he expected.

The tough lesson went unheeded in the second innings when Warren Lees and O'Sullivan batted for the best part of two hours to force an honourable, indeed a heroic draw.

On a slow pitch Lees and O'Sullivan batted with a great deal of comfort. True that Bedi, Chandrasekhar and Venkatraghavan imposed their authority but Bedi had enough time at his disposal to experiment. Why did he not bowl Anshuman Gaekwad for a few overs? He brings down the ball from a height and gives it a bit of a twist. My memory is not the most reliable storehouse of records but I do believe that somewhere in the West Indies not so long ago Gaekwad broke up a pretty frustrating partnership.

In this context even an over or two of leg-breaks from Sunil Gavaskar may not have been out of place!

Test pics. P 36-37

INDIA v NEW ZEALAND SECOND TEST

Played at Green Park, Kanpur November 18, 19, 20, 21 and 23, 1976
Result: Match drawn
Toss won by India
1st debut: Cally Troup
Umpires: M. V. Nagendra and T. Shivankaraya

INDIA

S. M. Gavaskar	b O'Sullivan	66	b Hadlee	15
A. D. Gaekwad	c Lees b Hadlee	43	not out	77
M. Amarnath	b O'Sullivan	70	c M. Parker b Hadlee	8
G. R. Viswanath	lbw b Roberts	68	not out	103
B. P. Patel	b Petherick	11		
A. V. Mankad	lbw b Troup	50		
J. S. M. H. Kirmans	c Turner b O'Sullivan	64		
K. Ghavri	c Troup b Petherick	4		
S. Venkatraghavan	c and b Petherick	27		
B. S. Bedi	not out	50		
B. S. Chandrasekhar	not out	10		
Extras (B 17, LB 4, NB 4, W 1)		26	Extras (LB 4, NB 1)	5
Total (for nine wkts decd)		521	Total (for 2 wkts decd)	208

FALL OF WICKETS

179 (Gaekwad), 2196 (Amarnath), 123 (Gavaskar), 245 (Amarnath)
2196 (Gavaskar), 4217 (Patel), 5312 (Mankad), 6341 (Viswanath), 7413 (Ghavri), 8450 (Kirmans), 9493 (Venkat)

BOWLING

Hadlee	29	2	171	1	15	1	56	2
Troup	20	3	69	1	10	0	47	0
Roberts	19	5	53	1				
Petherick	45	12	109	3	11	0	51	0
O'Sullivan	50	14	125	3	16	1	49	0
Howarth	5	0	21	0				

NEW ZEALAND

* G. M. Turner	c Viswanath b Bedi	113	c Venkat b Bedi	36
G. Howarth	c Kirmans b Ghavri	19	(6) c Mankad b Venkat	4
J. M. Parker	c Ghavri b Bedi	44	lbw b Bedi	17
M. G. Burgess	c Ghavri b Bedi	54	lbw b Venkat	24
A. D. C. Roberts	not out	84	c Mankad b Chandra	9
N. M. Parkes	lbw b Venkat	6	(2) c Mankad b Venkat	18
J. W. Lees	b Chandra	3	not out	49
R. J. Hadlee	b Chandra	0	c Venkat b Bedi	10
D. K. O'Sullivan	c Chandra b Venkat	15	not out	23
C. Troup	c Amarnath b Venkat	0		
P. J. Petherick	c Kirmans b Chandra	13		
Extras (LB 9)		9	Extras (LB 4)	4
Total		350	Total (for 7 wkts)	193

FALL OF WICKETS

154 (Howarth), 2118 (J. Parker), 1224 (Turner), 4225 (Burgess), 5241 (M. Parker), 386 (Burgess), 6250 (Lees), 7250 (Hadlee), 8291 (O'Sullivan), 9298 (Troup), 10350 (Petherick), 143 (M. Parker), 259 (Turner), 386 (Burgess), 497 (Roberts), 5110 (Howarth), 6114 (J. Parker), 7134 (Hadlee)

BOWLING

Ghavri	12	3	16	1	6	2	35	0
M. Amarnath	5	0	23	0	4	2	5	0
Bedi	41	12	80	3	40	23	42	3
Chandrasekhar	36	5	102	3	33	15	61	2
Venkatraghavan	48	9	120	3	34	20	46	2

'Grovel' — forget that, please

by SHARAD KOTNIS

“WILL you make India 'grovel,' Mr Tony Greig?”

This question was put to Greig by our Australian correspondent in Sydney a fortnight back and the towering, blond England captain had promised to answer that question on his arrival in India (SW-November 21)

And Greig kept his promise in an exclusive interview

“That remark I made in a TV interview, prior to the West Indies tour of England, was more in fun and it should have been taken in that spirit. Instead, the press made a mountain out of a mole hill and I was at the receiving end throughout the tour. Never again in my life will I predict the result of a series,” said Greig.

The Daily Mail's correspondent, Alex Bannister, standing close to us, supported Greig's viewpoint and added that Greig had had to suffer unnecessarily for no fault of his.

“So, young chap from my favourite sports magazine, don't press me for an answer. I have had enough. I don't want to make anyone 'grovel.' All I can say is I've looked forward to this tour ever since I left India after my last visit in 1972-73 because it's been very exciting playing before your huge and appreciative crowds.”

“We have a good side, a blend of youth and experience and I think we have an even chance,” said Greig, looking fresh, slimmer



Many happy returns of the day to manager Barrington at the Taj. Greig and Brearley join the ritual



Manager Barrington, skipper Greig and his deputy Mike Brearley meet the press

and sleek despite the long air journey from London.

The 16 man MCC party, accompanied by manager Ken Barrington, and physiotherapist T W Thomas arrived in Bombay in the early hours of Wednesday. They start the tour with a match against West Zone at Poona on November 29.

Manager Ken Barrington, also a member of the England selection committee, who had been to India twice before, celebrated his birthday on the flight cutting a cake provided by Air India. He went through the ritual again at the Taj in Pondicherry, where the team is staying, in the presence of newsmen. Despite his advancing years, Barrington was his usual self, adding a touch of humour here and there.

Tony Greig, who is most popular with Indian fans with his mischievous on and off the field, is not at all disturbed by his own indifferent form in recent Tests. “Give me a couple of hours sleep and I will be on top of the world,” he quipped.

Replying to a question whether his team will try to put pressure on umpires as they had done on the last tour, Greig replied, “The Indian umpires are as good as those in any part of the world. There's no question of putting any pressure on umpires when we go out. We want to play exciting cricket all the way, though glorious, attacking cricket is not possible always as it depends much on the circumstances and the state of the game.”

Commenting on the youngsters in his team, Greig said Derek Randall and Graham Barlow were the most exciting prospects and they should come good on this tour.

Randall is a brilliant fielder and, I am sure, he will compete with me, by the end of the tour, for the title of ‘Mr Popular’.

As regards bowling bouncers to tailenders, Greig remarked, “We respect the laws and we'll play within them. We don't want to create any problems.”

Barrington was not worried about England's slow over-rate. “We are fully aware of that and try to increase the overrate for we are basically entertainers and we owe it to the spectators to provide exciting, thrilling cricket,” he added.

Asked whether their approach to our world class spin will be different than that on the last tour, Greig emphasised “We have seen more of the Indian spinners since the last tour and we are now more equipped to tackle your spin. We want to challenge and tame the Indian spinners.”

And lastly, Greig quipped, “If I'm in charge of Indian cricket, I'll tackle the question of fast bowlers on a war footing and search for them in northern India.”

SW awards

SPORTSWEEK is happy to announce that the Board of Control for Cricket in India has accepted its proposal to award Rs 1,500 to the “Man of the Match” for all the five Tests between India and England. The panel of judges will be Sportsweek's Managing Editor Khalid Ansari, the manager of the England team, Ken Barrington and the manager of the Indian team.

Welcome Greig & Co.



On hand at Bombay airport to receive the MCC tourists Mike Brearley (left), Tony Greig and manager Ken Barrington were Cricket Board Secretary Ghulam Ahmed and Assistant Secretary N. D. Karmarkar



Keith Fletcher, Mike Brearley and Dennis Amiss a moment for serious thought



Autograph hunters spot pace man Bob Willis

Pics: GOPAL BHAT



In lighter vein . . . Derek Underwood (left) and Bob Willis



Oh yes, Indian curry again . . . easy man



The sportswriters . . . Jon Henderson (Reuter), Chris Martin-Jenkins (BBC), Peter Laker (Daily Mirror), Pat Gibson (Daily Express), John Thicknesse (Evening Standard) and Alex Bannister (Daily Mail)

THE ART OF CRICKET.

Jumping out to drive

WHEN a slow spin bowler is operating, and is giving the ball a reasonable amount of air by tossing it up, he is naturally doing this to try to get more turn on the ball.

A batsman's job is to counter this idea, and one of the best ways is to use his feet by going down the wicket to attack the bowling, either hitting it on the half-volley or full-toss, to prevent the spin taking effect.

I maintain that far more batsmen who miss the ball are stumped by a few inches, because they reach forward tentatively from the crease and overbalance, than are stumped by some feet when going well down the pitch to drive.

If you decide to jump out there is no sense in going out only half way. Such indecision very often proves fatal. It is much better either to change your mind and retreat back to the safety of your crease before you make the shot, or alternatively, to go right on with it and pay the penalty of missing the ball.

I never mind a chap being stumped by two yards, but when he is stumped by an inch you can be almost certain he has played a bad or tentative shot, being dubious in his mind about the length of the delivery and groping forward, when he either should have gone well out of his ground to smother the spin or played back if the delivery warranted it.

The pull shot

When I was very young and just beginning to learn the rudiments of the game, I was compelled by circumstances to play most of my cricket on concrete pitches covered with cinder matting.

As anyone with experience on them knows, these pitches give rise to a more uniform but much higher bounce than turf.

I was very short and consequently found great difficulty in playing with a straight bat, the ball pitched short of a length on the stumps. It came too high for comfort. Remember, I was a schoolboy and often faced the bowling of grown men.

To overcome this predicament, I developed the pull shot to a marked degree.

It simply consisted of going back and across with the right foot and pulling the ball with a horizontal

bat somewhere between mid-on and square-leg.

Because of my grip I was able to roll the wrists over as the stroke was played and keep the ball on the ground. Keen eyesight was needed, and one had to be careful the ball did not keep low, but this seldom happened on the cinder mats.

After arriving in Sydney and commencing my career on turf, I began exploiting the same shot.

Now turf is much more uncertain than concrete and I began to lose my wicket occasionally because the greater speed and lower bounce of the ball off turf sometimes caused me to hit over the ball and be bowled or lbw. When that happened the shot looked a real travesty and I am sure this, above anything else, gave rise to the story that I played with a cross bat.

Actually there is no other way to play the pull shot than with a

cross bat, but on turf greater judgment is required and the stroke must be used more sparingly.

I was counselled by many older players to give it up. They said it was too risky. But I was loath to do so because I felt sure it would bring me lots of runs, providing it was used with discretion.

A medium pace bowler quite often operates without a fieldman between mid-on and square leg, and this huge unprotected area is most inviting. Even if a man is stationed there, one has plenty of room on either side.

Slow bowlers usually have a man or two on the fence, but a pull shot can be played with very great power and it can be placed with precision so that there may still be a reasonable hope of getting four runs.

No batsman should attempt to pull a ball which is over-pitched or of good length. This is courting disaster.

However, assuming the ball to be the right sort, the method is very similar to the hook shot.

Go back and across with the right foot so that the right toe is pointing almost straight down the pitch towards the bowler. Then as the ball comes along (normally knee to stomach high) pull it hard to mid-wicket — at the same time pivoting the body and rolling the wrists over to keep the ball on the ground. In many respects the movement is similar to a square cut, but instead of cutting against the line of flight, you pull with it.

In order to control the shot and

to have the best chance of combating any uneven bounce, it is essential to pivot the body and to get the legs fairly well apart.

If my batting was known for any one particular shot, this was it, mainly because of (a) the frequency with which I employed it, and (b) because I was able to keep the ball on the ground.

The great majority of players who attempt the stroke hit the ball in the air because they hit up and under it and in their grip they keep the left wrist more in front of the handle than I do.

When pulling with the left wrist in this position, the blade of the bat is slightly open. The ball can be struck satisfactorily but it will automatically go in the air and the slightest mishit will cause it to fly off the top edge of the bat.

That is one reason why so few first class players (especially Englishmen) try the shot at all. For

by SIR DONALD BRADMAN

them it isn't worth the risk. But they are missing a grand scoring medium.

The stroke is particularly effective against a slow leg break bowler should he stay in his length. It then becomes a natural, even though it means hitting against the break and thereby flouting one of cricket's so-called sacred principles.

Also it is tremendously valuable against the off-spinner with a close leg field. There is nothing like a full-blooded pull shot right into the teeth of the short-leg fieldsmen to disturb their confidence and shift them back a yard or two. That in itself is a big contribution in minimizing their danger.

If there is no outfield at all the ball can deliberately be lofted over the men close in, but the shot is such a powerful one and it is so seldom used, except with full power, that I found it satisfactory to hit the ball mainly on to the ground and be content with trying to place it between the fieldsmen.

At the finish of the shot the batsman will find himself facing square leg, providing he has pivoted correctly and has swung right through the ball.

In addition to rolling his wrists the striker should, if possible, always keep the blade of the bat not quite horizontal and pointing slightly downwards. This is of further assistance in keeping the ball on the ground.

Publishers Rupa & Co
(to be continued)

THACKERSEY CRICKET CONTEST

Name correctly the Indian Team and the Twelfth Man to play against England in the first Test match at Delhi commencing 17th Dec '76

FIRST PRIZE: 25 all correct entries will receive vouchers for **Thackersey Fabrics** worth Rs 100/- each

CONSOLATION PRIZE: 25 consolation prizes of vouchers for **Thackersey Fabrics** worth Rs 50/- each

NOTE: If there are more than 25 winners in either category lots will be drawn and prizes awarded accordingly. If there are more than 25 all correct entries precedence for consolation prize will be given to those who have all correct entries. The decision of the judges will be final and binding

ENTRY FREE: There will be no entry fee

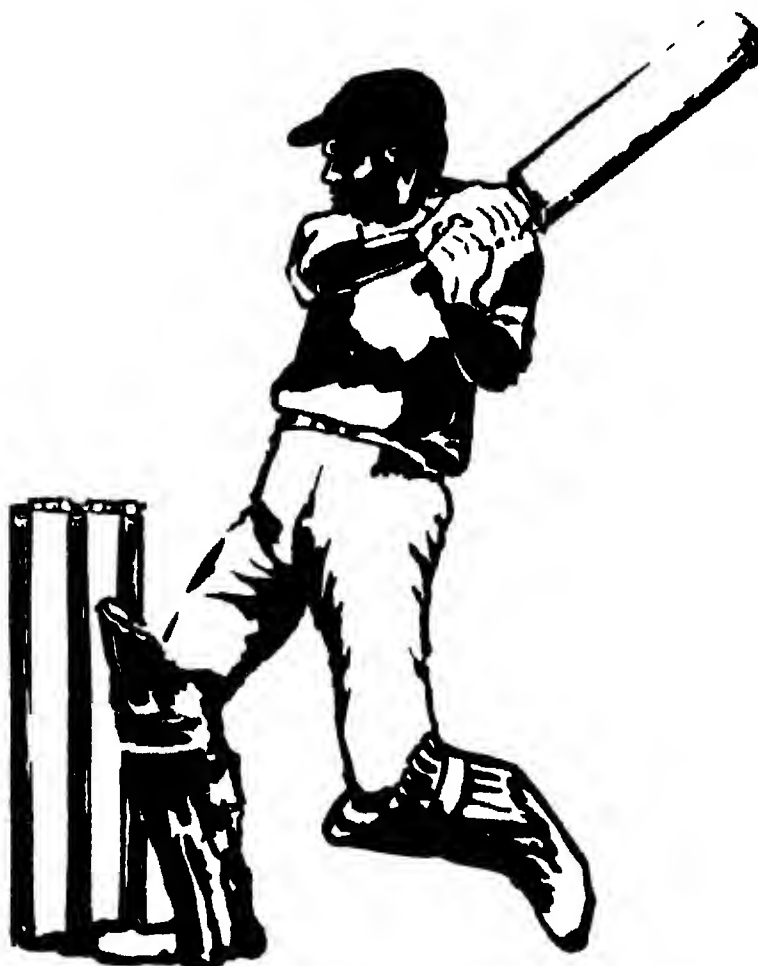
Closing Date: 8th Dec. '76.

Please address your entries to:
Mr. Vijay Merchant,
Hindustan Spg. & Wvg.
Mills Ltd.

Sir Vithaldas Chambers, 16, Bombay
Sa nachar Marg, Bombay-400023



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Madison/TF/2/20/76

Spotlight on the MCC squad

You've got to work hard, then harder...

Manager BARRINGTON tells PAT GIBSON

Last week, the MCC arrived in Bombay facing one of the most demanding assignments in cricket—a five Test series against India. Pat Gibson examines the problems with a man who knows better than most, tour manager Ken Barrington.

IF Ken Barrington had been 10 years younger, his name would have been the first the England selectors wrote down for this winter's five-Test tour of India.

Out there, where the suffocating heat and the vast crowds, not to mention the master spinners, make the pressures as fierce as anywhere in the cricket world, success is as much about character and application as reputation and flair.

Such qualities made Barrington as successful and as popular a batsman as England ever sent east with 674 runs in 10 Test innings on Indian soil.

No one could be better equipped for the role than the private soldier's son from Reading who has become a successful garage proprietor in the Rover belt of Surrey and in between served Surrey for 21 years and England in 82 Tests.

He may not have the pedigree of some of his predecessors as MCC managers like the Duke of Norfolk and Sir Pelham Warner.

But the late Wally Grout, that great Australian wicketkeeper, once said of him "When he walks in you can almost see the Union Jack waving behind him. To us, he's the perfect England professional, efficient, rugged and full of guts. You've always got to dig him out. He never gives it away. And what's more, he's a nice guy."

The players under Barrington's command will quickly find that out for themselves when they get to India. Nothing will be too much trouble for the manager.

But they had better respect the hard streak of discipline in the soldier's son, appreciate the practicality of the successful business man.

Barrington, who as a selector has shared England's heartaches in recent series, has already writ-

ten to all 16 players outlining what he expects of them.

He has told them of the opportunity they have been given, of the part they can play in leading England back to the top, of the standards he wants them to maintain throughout the tour.

They will wear light blue blazers (with George and Dragon emblem) and dark blue trousers when they're on duty. In the nets, strictly cricket gear. No tracksuits, shorts or T-shirts as displayed by some touring teams recently.

On the field he will demand no more than he always gave himself—100 per cent effort and concentration—to cope with the unique pressures of Test cricket in India.

In nine innings on the 1961-62 tour he scored 594 runs, including centuries at Bombay, Kanpur and Delhi, for an average of 99. In one Test on the 1963-64 tour he made 80 at Madras before going home with a broken finger.

So it is with a rich background of personal achievement that he can advise his tourists on what to expect—and what they can do to succeed.

"For a batsman," he says, "there are two major problems to contend with—the wickets which are slower than anywhere else in the world and the atmosphere of the Indian Test grounds."

"The first thing to hit you is the heat and the brightness. At times it's like looking into an arc lamp. Then there is the tremendous enthusiasm and the noise from crowds of up to 50,000 with whistles and hooters—even mirrors sometimes, when I was there, which were flashed in your eyes."

"It is essential to play straight when you first go in. On those slow wickets you're up against spin bowlers of the highest class. Past masters, these chaps, who know exactly what they're doing."

"In places like Bombay and Madras the humidity is so high that everything—your cap, gloves,



Ken Barrington

shirt, trousers—is saturated in sweat within half an hour.

"But you've got to keep working hard, keep concentrating and then, when you're 'in,' you've got to concentrate even harder on building a big score."

"Out there totals of 250 to 300 are rarely adequate—like a 76 on a golf course. We've got to be shooting 68s and 69s that's 400 plus—to give our bowlers the opportunity to attack."

"So batting has got to be a wearing down process. Yet runs can be scored and you can enjoy it because Indian crowds love their cricket and if you can win them over and they take to you they're your fans for life."

"Our bowlers will have to work very hard as well since India have got some lovely stroke players."

"Then it's a question of old-fashioned principles like length and direction and bowling to your field. And this is where brilliant holders like Derek Randall and Graham Barlow can play a tremendous part in helping the bowlers."

"Above all tough, as in all big cricket, the main thing is to keep fighting, to keep batting all the time. And from the response I have had from the players already I believe they are capable of doing just that."

Man-by-man analysis

TONY GREIG faces his biggest challenge when he leads MCC on their winter tour, writes PAT GIBSON

His personal form after a disappointing summer, his captaincy of an England side that has yet to win under him will be under constant gaze during the four-month trek through India, Sri Lanka and on to the centenary Test in Australia.

Yet, for the captain, as much as the youngest player in the party, it could be an educational trip. At the end of it he could be fulfilling his vast potential as an all rounder.

This is the view of many good judges, including tour manager Ken Barrington who in assessing the 16 man squad told me he hopes Greig will abandon seam bowling to concentrate on off spinners. "Tony has had a rest from cricket and I am sure he will have benefited from it," said Barrington. "His leadership and all-round experience are going to be absolutely vital and I have no intention of trying to interfere with his job on the field."

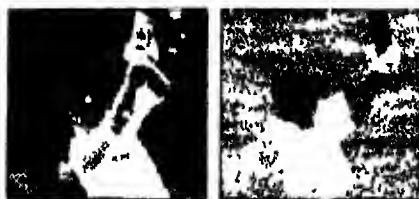
"But I would like to see him make a 100 per cent effort to master the art of off spin bowling."

"I watched him at The Oval in the final Test and there were times when he was beating the bat and making the ball bounce more than anybody."

"Everybody remembers his great performance in the West Indies two tours ago when he took 13 wickets in the last Test bowling off spinners and saved the series."

"I believe that if he can now go on to achieve full control of length and direction he has so much more to offer both England and Sussex."

"And especially in this tour spin bowlers have to do a tremendous amount of work out there and with only three recognised spinners in the squad - Derek Underwood, Geoff Cope and Geoff Miller - it will help a lot if the captain specialises in this role."



Greig

Brearley

Barrington, impressed by the general balance of the party and by the enthusiasm he has already encountered among the players, foresees fierce competition for Test

selection which will probably be in the hands of a five-man committee - himself, Greig, vice captain Mike Brearley and senior professionals Alan Knott and Keith Fletcher.

This is the manager's rundown on the men who carry England's hopes.

BATSMEN

MIKE BREARLEY—He had a great season with Middlesex and should be a tremendous help as vice-captain on this tour. Sound enough and experienced enough to be successful.

DENNIS AMISS—A real class player in my view. He has had his problems in the past—but so have many others. A great fighter as he showed in his tremendous comeback at The Oval and loves success.



Amiss

Fletcher

KEITH FLETCHER—Without a doubt he is one of the finest players of spin bowling in English cricket. His knowledge and experience make him a key figure.

BOB WOOLMER—He came through well against Australia and the West Indies. Now it's time for him to tighten up, to go on from "middle" scores to hundreds. He has great potential.

GRAHAM BARLOW—He has grown in stature this year. From being an average player, he has suddenly started to put things together and looks an exciting prospect. Brilliant fielder.

DEREK RANDALL—A fine player of spin and in my view the best cover point in the world. Here is a talent a lot of people are hoping to see take off this winter. Indian crowds will love this character.

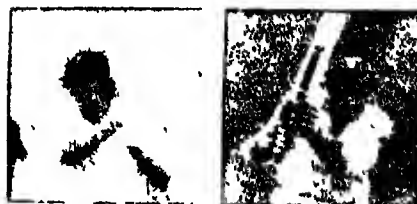
ALL-ROUNDERS

CHRIS OLD—Great news that he is 100 per cent recovered from his knee trouble. Wholehearted bowler, fine catcher and wonderful striker of the ball, especially against spin.

GEOFF MILLER—Voted young cricketer of the year by players and press. He has so much talent with the bat as well as his off-spin bowling. Only needs experience. Then he could be an England player for years to come.

WICKETKEEPERS

ALAN KNOTT He was under a lot of pressure in his benefit season but still the world's best. He will fight all day for England.



Woolmer

Barlow

ROGER TOLCHARD Reserve to Knott and such a fine player of spin he could easily take up a specialist batting position if required.

QUICK BOWLERS

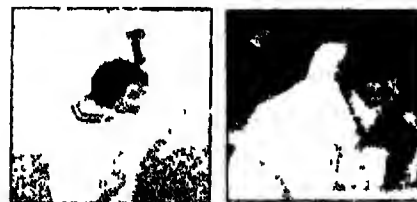
BOB WILLIS As quick as anybody in the world when he puts it together. He's working very hard at Edgbaston under the expert eye of assistant manager and physio Bernard Thomas and looks in great shape.

MIKE SELVEY He has improved tremendously. Ninety wickets last season speaks for itself. He has made himself into a very good bowler. The sort of bloke who keeps at it.

JOHN LIVER You need people like him -- a strong willing work horse. And left arm delivery gives him a different angle.

SLOW BOWLERS

DEREK UNDERWOOD He has never let England down anywhere in the world. He has learned season by season and is now at his peak. You couldn't ask for a more 100 per cent tried.



Randall

Old

GEOFF COPE One of the top wicket-takers for the past two seasons. A typical Yorkshireman, cricket just oozes out of him. He's talking cricket, whether it's batting, bowling or fielding, all the time. Good for the squad to have someone so keen.

It is not difficult to see why Barrington is looking ahead to the tour with confidence and optimism.

England on the way up?

ONE of the first jobs facing tour manager Ken Barrington when the MCC party arrives in India will be to arrange team photographs for hundreds of Christmas cards.

The message will be the traditional one about peace and good will. By the time we say farewell to Bombay in February he hopes to be flashing a completely different message around the world.

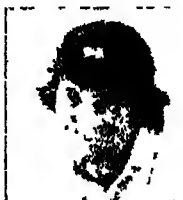
A warning that England are on the way back as a force in international cricket.

"You cannot simply close one door and open another," says Barrington, who as a selector knows only too well the problems England have faced in successive series against Australia and the West Indies.

"But now we've a golden opportunity to do something, to start a new era by blending our wealth of experience with the rich potential that is beginning to come through."



Miller



Knott

"Then look at Yorkshire, well used to producing their own players. Middlesex, where Don Bennett has done wonders with their youngsters, and Leicester where Mike Turner and Ray Illingworth are involved in going out looking for talent and giving it an opportunity."

"I am sure counties like these are going to produce Test players in the near future. And I'm equally convinced that if other counties put in more effort they will have similar success."

"County players, committees, members — they can all help by digging around, trying to spot young players of potential and giving them a chance in a profession that becomes better and better paid each year."

Barrington firmly believes that all England need to flourish again are two or three players of genuine class to emerge from the young talent that is appearing on the horizon.

"If you look back on England's performances during the past two years," he insists, "there has not

been that much difference between the sides, we haven't been that badly beaten."

Five new players — Graham Barlow, Derek Randall, Geoff Cope, Geoff Miller and John Lever — are being blended in the 16 strong



Folchard



Willis

party which faces five Tests against India followed, after a break in Sri Lanka, by the centenary Test against Australia at Melbourne.

And Barrington claims: "I am very confident, very optimistic. We all know that it is going to be very difficult but I'm sure we can send back some good news to cheer everyone up during the winter months."

"Cricket has really come to life during the past two years, what with the World Cup and the Australian and West Indian tours. And there are so many people wishing us well, wanting to see England do well. We are determined not to let them down."

Barrington better known for his caution rather than any spirit of adventure during his batting days, bases his bold prediction on the belief that the health of English cricket is dependent on a success



Selvey



Lever

ful England team. And that more and more people are beginning to realise it.

"If we look at the problems English cricket has faced in recent years, a lot of people agree that far too many overseas players have occupied prime positions in our county sides at the expense of our own youngsters."

"There have been times when a little more application here, a bit more experience there, certainly freedom from injuries to our fast bowlers in certain Tests like Old Trafford this summer might have swayed the balance."



Underwood



Cope

But now our fortunes are on the turn. Things are beginning to happen a bit. There are boys like young Miller coming up, Barlow and Randall, and another half a dozen who could develop into Test players."

"We're still a bit short of fast bowlers but I'm sure that in the next season or so we'll find somebody. That's how these things usually happen."

But that's in the future. The priority now is India and its own particular problems of slow wickets, masterly spinners, run-hungry batsmen and the noise and heat of the teeming grounds.

It will make a change from dodging the bullets of Lillee and Thomson, Roberts and Holding.

And if England are successful all Barrington's optimism will have been justified. We really will be on the way back.

-PAT GIBSON

SPORTING SAM by Reg Wootton



Oh, for that elusive victory

For Greig it's been a long wait

AMONG Tony Greig's profit-and-loss accounts the least rewarding so far is England's long wait for success for his captaincy.

Before Greig begins leading England in India, the Australian and West Indians had kept him waiting eight Tests without a win.

Sensing that captains so frustrated are liable to hear disloyal mutterings, Tony said "As God made green apples there will be people saying England should have a new captain."

I know no Australian who questions Greig's capacity for Test leadership but we wonder whether the selectors can give his side the kind of batting a Test XI needs.

Compared with the Australian and West Indian teams, batsmen chosen for England have mostly been too old or too strokeless or both. Aiming to choose a team not to lose falls a long way short of

choosing teams to win. You'd think such men as Jameson and Hampshire did not exist. Too risky, they say.

In the absence of Boycott, until a strokesman (Dennis Amiss) was recalled for the last Test at The Oval, England had no batsman capable of scoring quickly enough until the batting order got down to all-rounder Greig, sixth, and wicketkeeper Knott, seventh.

After they put the West Indies 62 runs behind in the Lord's Test the Englishmen's second innings lacked the urgency to leave enough time to get the West Indians out on the last day.

Scoring high or low, Clive Lloyd and his men made runs fast enough to give their bowlers time to force finishes. Over the series in England they averaged 62 runs per 100 balls, compared with England's 45 per 100 balls (2½ runs an over).

Without rivaling Ian Chappell's under-full-sail field-settings Greig has encouraged England's bowlers with more men in catching positions than were seen in the Englishmen's last series in Australia. He is England's most combative player in word as well as deed.

Australia has figured largely in Anthony William Greig's rise to the top as all-rounder. Introduced by World XI captain Sir Gary Sobers as a "5 foot 19 inch blond bombshell" the lanky right hander produced form on that tour that

by RAY ROBINSON

made him a regular choice for England. Melbourne did not easily forgive the South African-born medium pacer for a learner that put Graeme Watson's life in jeopardy for weeks. Exceptional length of leg brought him the nickname "Washpeg."

Tony has been recognised as the most incident-prone player in the game since he ran out Alvin Kalicharran as the Guyanese left hander was walking away without attempting to run, after the last ball of a Test day. In a highly inflammable setting, heavyweight diplomacy caused a reversal of the decision.

Some Indian writers found fault with Greig over a few incidents when Tony Lewis' team was touring yet his play and unconventional personality made him popular with Indian crowds.

So it was with Australian crowds on England's last visit. Barrackers questioned his wisdom when he bowled a bouncer to get Dennis Lillee out on a lively Brisbane track but his fighting response to the fast bowler's fiery rejoinder stirred onlookers' admiration. Seeing others' orthodox batting get nowhere, Tony boldly decided that the slash had better prospects than the smother. Exchanging oral taunts and teasing gestures, he slashed rearing balls to unpredictable spots. One chance helped Greig to the most exciting Test century Brisbane has seen for years.

Australian crowds soon identified him as the pacemaker in combative gamesmanship. He was the first they ever saw stoop at ultra silly point by the pitch's edge holding his open right hand a metre or so from the bat with an air of willing the striker to pop a catch in it.

Some older onlookers felt that more than any predecessor Greig was pushing gamesmanship over



the border into shamemanship with taunts and gestures. Crowds were much too far away to hear any thing said but sometimes versions came over the grapevine

Manners on the field were changing so much in Anglo-Australian Tests that a new verb, sledging, came into use for taunts and exchanges in 1972. As in all his cricket, there have been no half-measures about Tony, but three or four Australians did not allow the foremost performer to get too far out in front.

The first sight of Greig's raised arm pointing the way to the gate for dismissed Australians caused an uproar of mixed feelings. Some barrackers resented the peremptory dismissal gesture, others were amused. Walters and Marsh did not appear to mind much, perhaps it was a compliment to the importance of their wickets.

It was impossible to estimate the proportions of the Melbourne crowd's mixed reactions, but as Tony did not repeat the gesture in later Tests players assumed that the England team leadership asked him to desist, believing the effect was adverse.

One action that misjudged barrackers' response came in a Sydney Test when an orange was tossed in Greig's direction as he walked to the north-eastern outfield. Tony threw it back into the crowd. It is hard to say what target it found, but loud pelts with litch leftovers, beer cans were thrown near him. A peach stone and a plum hit him in the back. After that over Tony spoke to his captain and umpire Tom Brooks. Freddie Tunnus took over the outfield post and peace was restored.

As Australia's last wicket fell in a one-day game two Melbourne girls in bikinis ran to midfield to hand Tony posies and kiss him, in appreciation of his contributions



to the season's enjoyment. Photographs appeared in every London daily, capped by Patrick Eagar's angle-shot in The Cricketer magazine of cricket's longest legs stretching helplessly from the girls' fond embrace.

Whatever might have happened

in the heat of a moment, Tony invariably appeared in the Australians' room with a can of beer for a frank and friendly after-play chat that let any midfield frictions out in the centre.

As an outstanding personality he fulfilled every expectation when Waverley Club invited him out for season 1975/76. His share of television and other trade plugs was estimated at \$62,000. As captain-coach he led Waverley to their first premiership for 20 years. On umpires' votes he was adjudged player of the season and captain of the season.

After 47 Tests Greig, 30, is on his way toward becoming the second to couple more than 100 Test wickets with 3,000 runs. The first was Sir Gary Sobers.

Remembering the difference Greig's purposeful leadership made to England they met in 1975, Australia's players expect him to make a good list of restoring his country's fortunes with an experimental side of 16 containing five newcomers to Test ranks, two whose experience is limited to two Tests and an eighth who has made one Test appearance.

Cricketers of the week—26

BIRTHS

November 21: J. Darling (Aus) 1870, Sir F. S. Jackson (Eng) 1870, E. S. Kentish (WI) 1916, Javed Akhtar (Pak) 1940.

November 22: J. T. Tyldesley (Eng) 1873, Zulfiqar Ahmed (Pak) 1926, Mushtaq Mohammed (Pak) 1943.

November 23: F. Hearne (Eng) 1858, D. R. Havewala (Ind) 1913.

November 24: H. Sutcliffe (Eng) 1894, R. D. Jenkins (Eng) 1918, K. D. Mackay (Aus) 1925, C. T. Patankar (Ind) 1930, K. F. Barrington (Eng) 1930, F. J. Titmus (Eng) 1932, B. D. Milburn (NZ) 1943, Ashok Gandotra (Ind) 1948, B. P. Patel (Ind) 1952.

November 25: P. Holmes (Eng) 1886, E. A. Martindale (WI) 1909, R. E. Hammence (Aus) 1915, K. J. O'Keefe (Aus) 1949, Imran Khan (Pak) 1953.

November 26: Jasu Patel (Ind) 1921.

November 27: Prakash Bhandari (Ind) 1935.

DEATHS

November 21: C. F. W. Allcott (NZ) 1973.

November 23: F. R. Martin (WI) 1967.

November 26: L. E. Nagel (Aus) 1971, J. T. Tyldesley (Eng) 1930.

—K ISWARA DUTT

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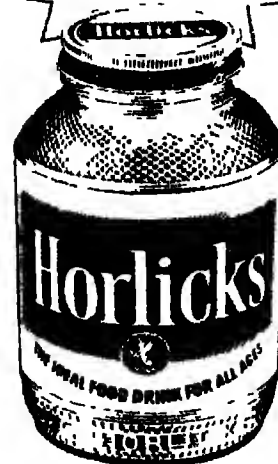
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Two draws in a row

THE first women's Test match between the West Indies and India at Bangalore brought to light some glaring deficiencies on either side. The West Indies, strong in batting, were atrocious in fielding — their catching and bowling had a limited strength

India excelled both in batting and fielding, but their running between the wickets has to be improved considerably and so has the rate of scoring, specially by the openers

India put up a good show against a score of 274 all out by the West Indians for whom Gloria Gill (53), Yolanda Ceddes Hall (44) and Grace Williams (43) batted extremely well

The Windies total threatened to go out of proportion, but was cut short by a good spell from leg-spinner Shubhangi Kulkarni who bagged five wickets in all for 48 runs

Shantha Rangaswamy, India's dashing skipper came to her side's rescue with a swashbuckling 74 which had a couple of fives, a sensational six over mid-wicket, off Pat Whitaker — the first by an Indian woman — and seven fours

Shobha Pandit, captain of the Indians to a score of 79 for six on a lifeless wicket and when Shantha declared at that total, the West Indies losing seven wickets for 175 in their second knock made a token declaration with India finishing on 30 for one

The match drew a splendid crowd on all three days and wo-

men's cricket has certainly come to stay in this country

—R ARVINDAM

RAIN, the spoil-sport, wrecked the second women's cricket Test between India and the West Indies at the M A Chidambaram Stadium in Madras. Only 90 minutes of play was possible on the second day of the three-day match, and on the third day rain reduced playing time to just 37 minutes. The truncated Test ended in a draw, the visiting team without even completing its first innings

The West Indies were probably lucky that there was so much pluvial play. But for the rain the home team might have won the match, considering that the Chepauk pitch is known to be highly responsive to spin, the department in which India are decidedly the better side

About 10,000 spectators turned up to see the match on the first day. They did not go home disappointed. Wispy Shantha Rangaswamy, the Indian skipper, saw to that with a fine knock of 57, inclusive of five boundaries and an all-run four

The Indian players had batted rather inhibitedly, despite the fact that the Caribbean bowlers were mostly bowling outside the off-stump, without swing. Shobha Pandit, perhaps the technically best batsman, was out rather cheaply, caught by wicketkeeper Yolande Hall, off medium-pacer Grace Williams for seven. Sudha Shah was rather phlegmatic and scored 18 in 77 minutes before her stick to slip off. Patricia bounced off Peggy Lawweather's forehead into the hands of Beverley Browne at second slip. Shubhangi Kulkarni left a little after lunch, caught by Grace Williams off Sherill Beyley for 14

With Ujjwala Nisam, Shantha added 62 runs in 77 minutes for the fifth wicket. Ujjwala, who had played second fiddle to Shantha, now opened out and produced a few sweet drives before being caught by the wicketkeeper off Jasmine Sammy when 26. Jyoti Patel left soon, and the Indian total was a far from impressive 142 for seven. A stout Diana Eduljee whose very gait reflected her cavalier approach, went for the bowling. She hit all round the wicket with power, one square cut for four, off Patricia Whitaker, using the second new ball, being the most impressive of her shots. She



Shantha Rangaswamy . . .
two good knocks

however, bled dangerously, so to say, and was lucky to have been dropped twice

Diana (30) and a determined Susan Itticheriya (10) added 41 for the eighth wicket and were unbeaten at the end of the day. On the next day, when no play was possible before lunch, Susan left early after adding only one run to her total. She hesitantly pulled a short one from Sherill Beyley straight to Jasmine Sammy at short mid-wicket. Runa Basu joined Diana who was now in a really punishing mood. Sprightly Diana swept, square cut and lofted over long on once each to gain eight runs off Vivalyn Latty Scott in one over

Skipper Shantha applied the closure with the total at 218 for nine when Runa was run out by Vivalyn Latty Scott

The West Indians began their innings rather cautiously. Skipper Louise Browne, in particular, would not take any chance. Gloria Gill, who thrashed the short balls well, was not sound in her defence and was howled by a straight one from lefthanded spinner Diana Eduljee who was brought on to bowl by Shantha after the skipper and Runa had bowled 12 overs without success. Gloria made 13

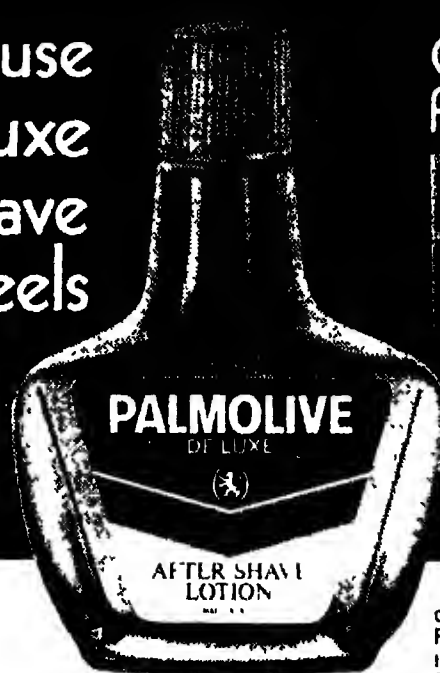
The West Indies, who were 25 for one at the end of the second day's play, lost three more wickets for the addition of only 16 runs when play resumed only after lunch on the third day when rain stopped play

—SW Correspondent



Shubhangi Kulkarni . . .
good spell at Bangalore

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(July, September 1976)

THE West Indies beat England comfortably in the five Test series. Alex Bannister describes it as 'Arm-chair ride to victory' while Tony Cozier explains how the West Indies rose from the ashes to triumph within six months. Plus Test by Test account by Tony Cozier with score cards, statistics and a closer by B. B. Mania. And eye-catching action pics from Pirelli, Ugar, Sporting Pics and Central Photos.

R. I. P. and Iden and Tony Lewis discuss the prospects of the New Zealand and MCC tours of India. Action pics of MCC players and portraits of the 16 you would like to possess.

Ravi Robinson features England's over-reliance on veterans. John Woodcock writes about intimidation—a major problem which remains unsolved—and Michael

Melford and Bishen Bedi survey the English county season.

Ajit Wadekar and Ron Hendricks preview India's

chances in the twin series. Raghunath Rau discusses the burning topic of producing fast bowlers and Sunder Rajan pleads for action and less words.

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Figures are fun

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WHEN Mushtaq and Sadiq both scored centuries in the first innings of the Hyderabad Test on October 24, they created an unprecedented record in Pakistan's Test history. It provided the first instance of two Pakistani brothers hitting hundreds in the same innings of a Test. In fact, this feat has not been performed before even in separate innings of the same Test for Pakistan.

This is all the more remarkable, since at least one of the four famous Mohammad brothers Hanif, Wazir, Mushtaq and Sadiq has played in each and every one of Pakistan's 79 Tests from the inaugural one at Delhi in 1952-53 to date, and in only 21 of these matches has only one brother of the Mohammad family alone represented Pakistan. Hanif appeared by himself in 17 Tests, whilst Wazir and Mushtaq made a solo appearance in only one Test apiece, and Sadiq appeared alone in two Tests.

Hanif and Wazir have played together in 18 Tests, whilst Wazir and Mushtaq were associated in just one Test together. Then, Hanif and Mushtaq combined in 20 Tests and now Mushtaq and Sadiq have been playing together in 20 Tests to date.

These various combinations include one memorable Test at Karachi in 1969-70 against New Zealand when three Mohammad brothers

there Hanif, Mushtaq and Sadiq appeared together for the first and only time in Pakistan's Test annals. That indeed was a historic occasion, since it was simultaneously Hanif's last Test and Sadiq's Test debut, with Mushtaq forming the common link between the passing of one era and the beginning of another.

Hanif originally played in Pakistan's initial 24 Tests, and after being absent in a couple of Tests against West Indies in 1958-59 when Wazir ensured the Mohammad family's representation in Pakistan's Test team, Hanif played in the next 31 Tests without a break. His 55 Tests constitute a record for the most Test appearances for Pakistan. In fact, he is the only Pakistani player who has 50 or more Test caps, with the highest run-aggregate (3915) for Pakistan.

Incidentally, when Mushtaq made his Test debut at Lahore in the second of the two Tests when Hanif could not play, he became and still remains the youngest ever player at the age of 15 years 124 days to make a first Test appearance. Mushtaq also holds to this day the record for being the youngest player at 17 years 78 days to score a Test century — 101 at Delhi in 1960-61.

Upto and including the 1976-77 Test series against New Zealand which ended on November 4, Mushtaq has scored 2,892 runs in 41 Tests and his brother Sadiq 1,695 runs in 22 Tests. Together with Wazir's 861 runs in 20 Tests and Hanif's 3,915 runs, this means that the four Mohammad brothers have aggregated 9,303 runs.

Mushtaq and Sadiq now require between them a mere matter of 697 runs to chalk up for the tour.

Some statistical highlights

INDIA'S 162 run win at Wankhede Stadium, Bombay, on November 15, 1976, is our 24th win in 145 Tests, and the 9th against New Zealand in 20 Tests. Coincidentally, this was also the 20th Test played at Bombay, where India has now won 5, lost 4, and drawn 11 against all countries.

FOR New Zealand, the recent Test in Bombay was their 57th defeat in a total of 123 Tests. They have only 9 wins to their credit, including 3 vs India.

NEW ZEALAND'S first innings total of 298 is their highest in four Tests played by them at Bombay, beating their 297 in 1964-65. (Their highest in India is 462 for 9 declared at Calcutta in



Sadiq

Mohammad brothers a grand total of 10,000 runs in Pakistan's Test history. They could well be prosecuted for monopolistic practices.

Add to this the fact that the Mohammads have scored nearly half the total number of centuries by all Pakistani batsmen, and one can then gauge the astounding contribution of this fabulously talented family in Pakistan's Test cricket. Out of a total of 58 Test centuries by Pakistan, Hanif has scored 12 hundreds, Wazir 2, Mushtaq 9 and Sadiq 4 — a total of 27.

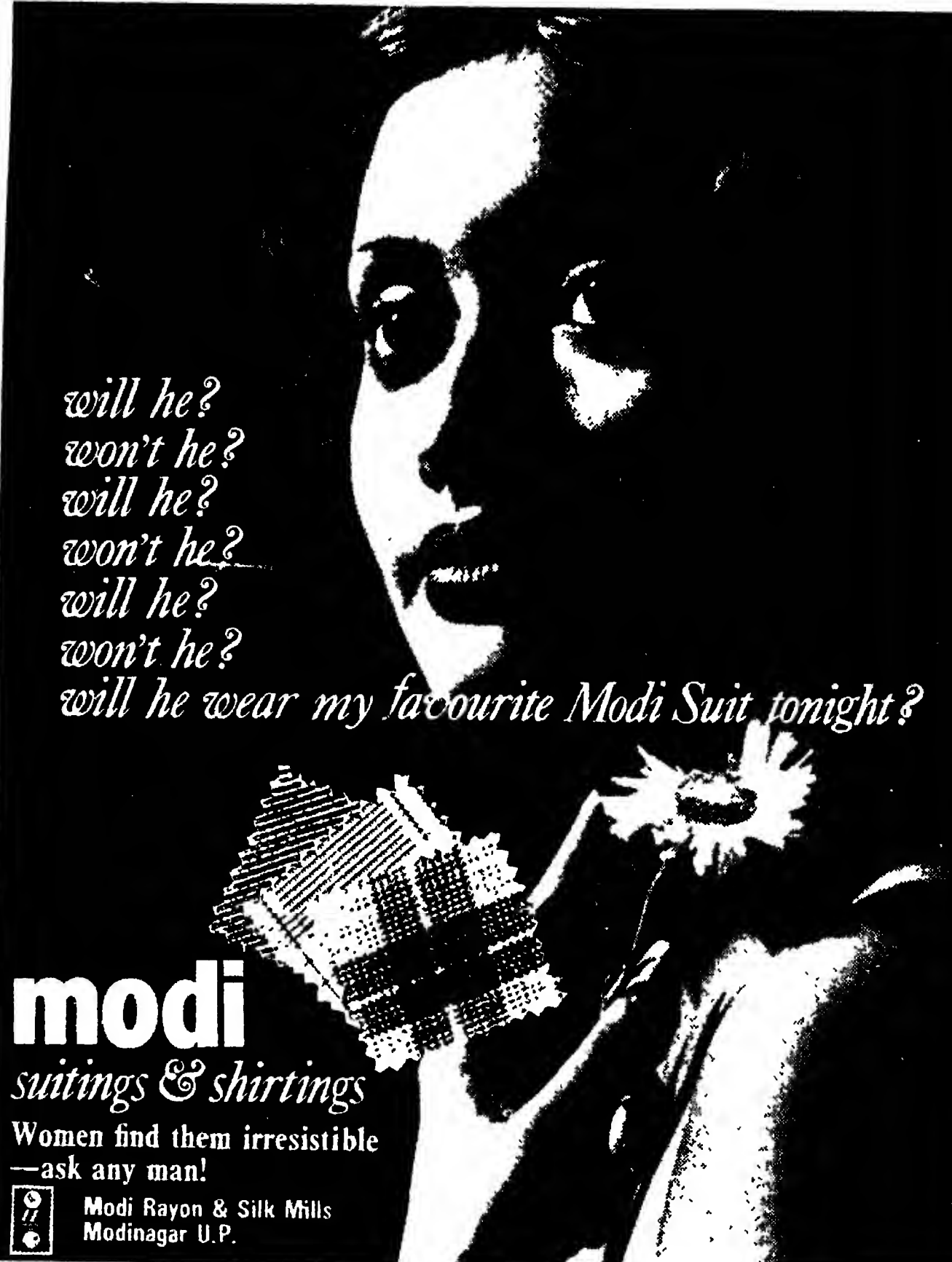
the same series and their highest against India is 502 at Christchurch in 1967-68.

THE ninth wicket stand of 105 between Karam and Bedi is a series record, beating the previous best of 52 between the same pair at Christchurch earlier this year. It is the 18th time that a century partnership for the ninth wicket has been recorded in Test annals, and the third such occasion for India, the previous two being 149 runs between 'Nana' Joshi and Ramakant Desai vs Pakistan at Bombay in 1960-61 and 122 runs between Sardesai and Prafulla vs West Indies at Kingston in 1970-71.

—B. R. MAMA



Mushtaq



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won't he?
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The varsity scene

Invincible Bombay

MADRAS

BOMBAY seem to be an invincible lot in the inter-university women's basketball championship. They won the all-India title for the eighth successive year here recently, but more impressive than the record of triumphs was the manner in which they emerged the best in this year's competition.

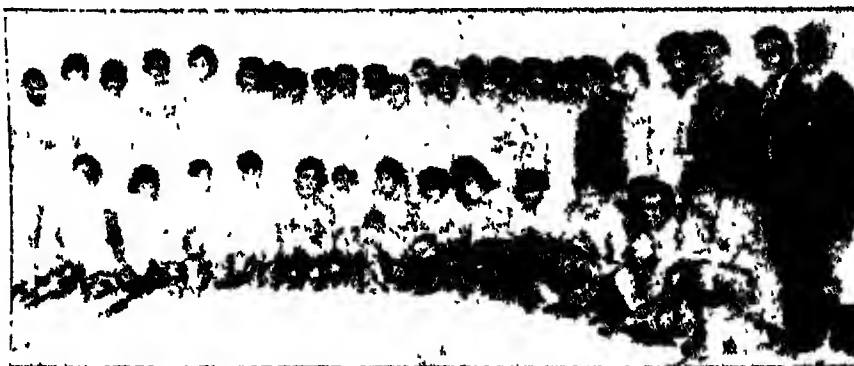
Bombay chalked up convincing wins in all their matches in both the south zone championship and the all-India competition. Only Kerala, who finished runner-up to them in both the competitions, were able to give them a fight though they never threatened to upset the Bombay juggernaut.

Bombay proved to be a well-knit side. The understanding between the players was near perfect. The fact that four of their players—Nandini Basur, an India star, Lalitha E. and Geetha—practise together almost daily at the Indian Gymkhana under the watchful eye of Ramnarayan Raja College coach Ramani Narayana, probably accounts for this fine combination between them. And Subha Prabhu, their stopper and shrewd playmaker. Under Ramani, the coach of the Bombay team, they have developed into a formidable combination.

Subha showed herself as a one



Nandini Basur
Bombay's star



The Bombay and Punjab University teams

dribbler adept at pivoting and passing. And she was good at shooting. But it was Nandini Basur who was really the player of the tournament. She was just great in just about everything she did on the court. Her rebounding—both defensive and offensive—was aggressive and effective. And Nandini proved to be an ace shooter. Both Nandini and Lalitha gave good accounts of themselves as guards.

Bombay's fast break attacks functioned very well. In the all-India competition they trounced Punjab 68-40, and followed up with a 63-42 win over Kerala and a 60-37 victory over Guru Nanak, the North Zone champions.

Kerala, who beat Guru Nanak 59-9, and Punjab 65-32, played somewhat better in the all-India match against Bombay than in the South Zone match in which they had lost 34-65. But against the sound defence that Bombay put up, they could not secure much through close to the basket shots.

Catherine Joseph was one Kerala player who held her own amidst the brilliant Bombay stars. She was sound in defence and delighted with her long-range set shots. She scored 14 points. For Bombay, Nandini was in great form in this match and scored 24 points. Geetha (18) and Subha Prabhu (10) were the other leading scorers in this match.

Punjab, who beat Guru Nanak 61-55 in an absorbing match of fluctuating fortunes, took the third place. Both the sets displayed good speed in dribbling but their shooting was not of good standard. Balraj Sandhu and Neelam Khosla were the leading scorers for Punjab, and Raminder Sarai and Sumathi did the bulk of the scoring for Guru Nanak.

Anjali Dalvi, Sandhya Abhayankar (Poona), Sadhana Warty (Jiwaji), Susan, Geerha (Calicut), Jen-

ifer Pais (Mysore), Vijayanthi (Nagpur) and Sandhya Ramaswamy (Madras) were some of the players who excelled in the south zone competition.

--SW Correspondent

Punjab win soccer title

IN a sensational final Punjab University beat Bombay University by 4-0 and bagged the coveted Ashutosh Mukharjee Trophy at Indore.

The first half of the match appeared to have sealed the fate as the Punjab boys came in for the interval with a big lead of 4-0. In the third minute Shivenderjeet Singh converted a corner into a goal and put Punjab one up. Then Mohinder Singh scored the second followed by the third and the fourth goals by Harbhajan.

In the second half Punjab began with a bang when Gurdharaj converted Mohinder's pass into the fifth goal. Then, like a giant awakened, Bombay took the initiative and fought back. They adopted the long passes technique and very nearly converted a defeat into victory when Kasimirasingh scored the sixth goal for Punjab and thus sealed the fate of the match.

The Bombay boys scored four goals which gave the final tally a respectable appearance. After the first set goal Manuel, Selvin and Romeo scored a goal each raising Bombay's tally to four. They lost the match but won the hearts of the spectators.

In the earlier rounds Bombay and Punjab from Group A and Delhi and Madras from Group B qualified for the knock-out stage. In the first semi-final Bombay beat Delhi and in the other semi-final Punjab beat Madras.

—MAHENDRA MAHAJAN

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Women's hockey

PUNJAB clinched the Lady Ratan Tata trophy, the symbol of women's hockey supremacy, for the seventh year in a row, defeating their last year's rivals Bombay by the aggregate of 3-2 in the double leg final of the 30th Senior Women's National hockey championship which concluded here last week.

Four of Punjab's internationals, Satinder Walia, Sudershan Baiwa and strikers Uma Jaggi and Harpreet Gill represented the Combined Universities which was figuring for the first time in the championship. They were favourites, but Bombay shocked the Universities to take their rightful place in the final.

Combined Universities, Jammu and Kashmir, Bundelkhand, Orissa and Himachal Pradesh were the new comers among the 21 teams which took part. Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh did not participate. The tournament was played on knock-out cum double leg semi-finals as final.

Punjab made an impressive start beating Gujarat 6-0, then struggled to get the better of Nagpur 2-0 before meeting Maharashtra in the double leg semi-finals and won by 3-1 aggregate.

On the other hand, Bombay

Punjab win yet again

also showed their form defeating Goa 6-0 in the opening match and scoring an exciting solitary goal win over the Combined Universities in the quarter finals and then defeating Kerala by the aggregate of 3-1 before qualifying for the final.

The championship provided a plethora of talent inasmuch as certain positions were concerned but it also showed the paucity of inside forwards — as a result, former international Darshan Bhatti—now a mother of a child — who was called upon to play for Punjab still appeared to be the best in side-right seen in action in the championship.

While as an outside left Punjab international Ranjini Nisha does not seem to have an equal, there were quite a few to catch the eyes. This included Bombay's Fiona Albuquerque, Goa's Olympia Pereira and Nagpur's youngster Kavita Singh.

With Maharashtra international Geeta Sarin — a regular inside left for India — playing as a centre half for Maharashtra — there was no one in this position to

catch the eye. Nisha Sharma was the best centre-forward on view.

Among the wingers, Maharashtra's Eliza Mendonca could still hold her own against the best of them. The others to impress in this position were Punjab's Parminder Chetana, Delhi's Poonam Chawla and Combined Universities Raksha.

The half backs, as a whole, were unimpressive.

—HARRY DAVID



Hockey stars Surjit Singh and Chanchal Kohli were married recently.



Top: Bombay's inside-right Dora Coutinho beats Punjab's goalkeeper in the second leg of the final. Below: Punjab centre forward Nisha Sharma pushes past Bombay's Neena Asikar.



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BIDHAN-AG-26



LR NATARAJAN and the sanctimonious Bombay Referees Association have been offended. Offended by what appeared in these columns some time in August under the heading "A Whopping Demand." Stoically they had borne the hurt for almost two months. All the while they never expressed how grievous was the wound, never wailed, like the less sensitive, the columns of this weekly or of any other press to soothe and heal the wound.

But now the pain has grown intensely unbearable. And the balm Natarajan, who was respected in his days as a whistler, and the BRA have hit upon is the privately circulated official organ of the BRA. The Soccer Referee. In the October issue, the latest, Natarajan, one of the four editors, has chosen to cross swords with the press on a number of issues and incidents. Perhaps it is his way of playing fair and displaying his impartiality and his courage to bracket all of them and several newspapers and magazines together.

Most pertinent to these columns is the issue of the BRA's demand for Rs. 25 for morning games and Rs. 20 for afternoon games per official from the University of Bombay for matches played at the Schools Sports Centre at Dhob Talao, the extra Rs. 5 being charged for morning games to cover breakfast expenses.

It must, of course, be conceded to Natarajan and the BRA that many referees in the past did free, voluntary service to deserving associations. That may have been the reason for the BRA charging the University of Bombay till last year only Rs. 5 per official, though a referee was entitled to Rs. 10 per match.

Are we to understand, Natarajan, that officials who do free, voluntary service are not now available for games of the University of Bombay tournament? Or that the breed of officials who were willing to take a cut in their conveyance expenses out of the largeness of their hearts are active no more? Or have Natarajan and the

The refs hit back

BRA struck off the University of Bombay from their list of associations or bodies deserving of their sympathy and help?

All bodies that seek the services of the BRA must be eternally grateful for its magnanimity in not having demanded higher conveyance allowances every time the bus and taxi fares went up. This must be appreciated, though Natarajan maintains, "the out of pocket expenses of the referees did not go up." But I am sure that this claim of his is sheer modesty.

In his enthusiasm to duel me, the angelic Natarajan has not been foolish enough to tread on all the ground that I had. For he has not advanced on the issue of differential rates for like services. Perhaps he had to leave half a page blank to add to the beauty of the make-up of the magazine and so could not touch on how the BRA and he had figured it all out to justify the charging of Rs. 25 or Rs. 20 for games of the University of Bombay and Rs. 8 for games staged by the Western India Football Association, the controlling body for the game in the state of Maharashtra. Of course, it is of no great significance that games under the WIFA are held as far apart as the Coonerave and the Xaverian Sports Complex, Parel, a distance of about eight miles, and are played to gates.

The frank, fearless and forthright Natarajan is also disturbed that the cowardly press is conspiring to bring about a rift in the cordial relationship between the BRA and the WIFA. One of the ruses that the sly press is employ-

ing is to suggest that the BRA should demand from the WIFA the same rates as it did from the University of Bombay.

But then the press which does not know the laws of the game also is ignorant that the difference between supervising a match in a University of Bombay tournament and a WIFA tournament, including the Rovers Cup, is akin to working in a small firm on regular wages and going to a major industry to learn the trade on a stipend. After all performances in the University of Bombay tournament do not beget promotions to National and eventually international class!

-SHARP-SHOOTER

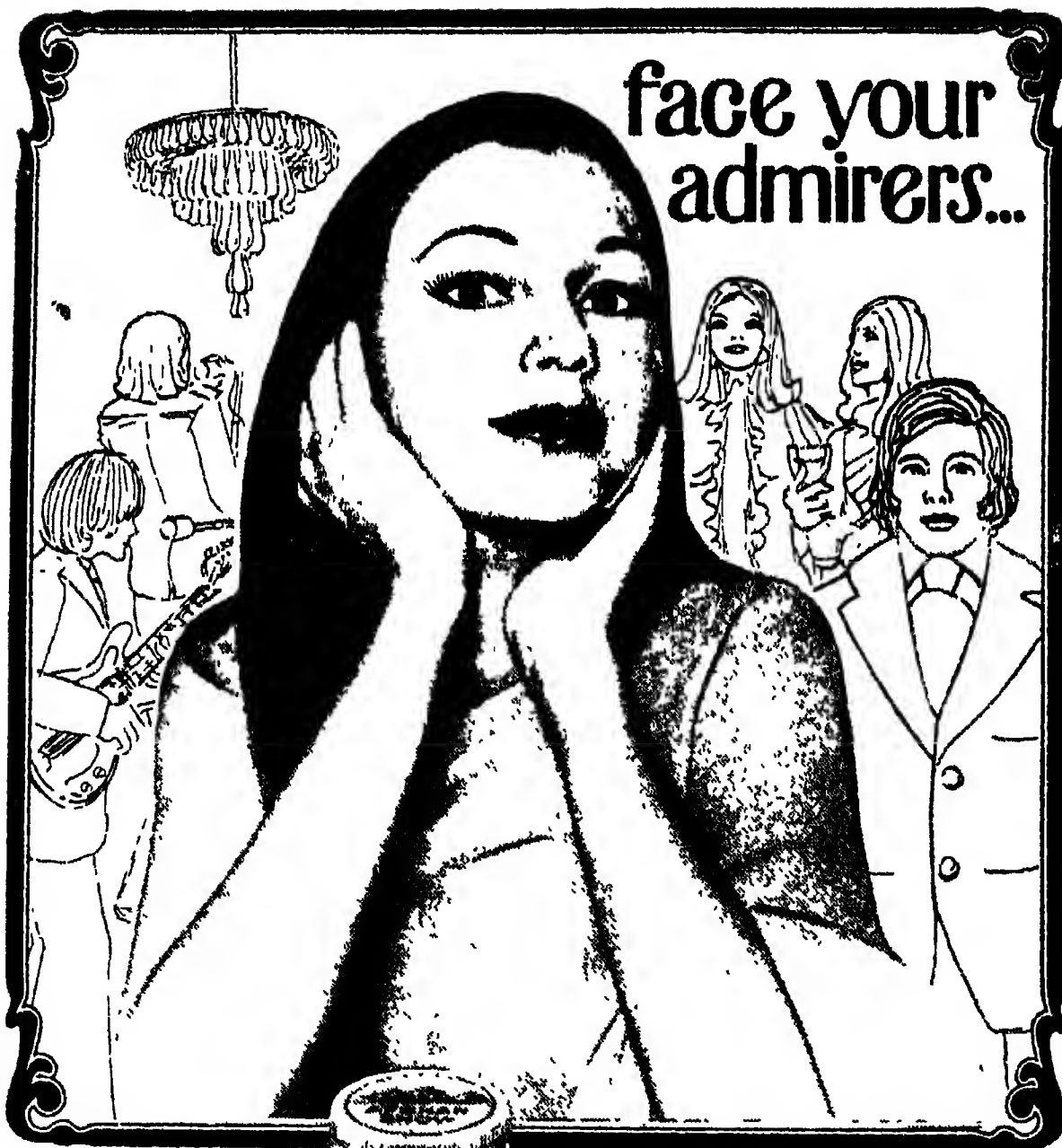
HEARD THIS ONE?

The following story has been credited to so many players that the fairest thing to do is to invent a character called 'Bill Smith' and apologise in advance to all Bill Smiths who ever played soccer. Our Bill Smith had the misfortune to see the opposition score and he immediately claimed for offside. The referee would have none of it. He pointed to the middle. It was a goal. 'Ref, you must be blind,' roared our Bill Smith. Incensed, the referee turned around and demanded, 'What was that you said?' Bill Smith threw up his hands in horror and cried, 'God, don't tell me you're deaf as well.'

ALL IN THE GAME!



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KNOW YOUR STARS

Shabbir Ali



THE Indian team that I led to the XVI Asian Youth Football Tournament at Bangkok in 1974 was not given much of a chance. After all, our predecessors had not even gone beyond the quarter-final stage, and some of them were on paper at least studded with more luminous names. But under the guidance of coaches Abdus Salam and Arun Ghosh, both former Olympians and FIFA trained, we went from strength to strength.

We were drawn into a fairly strong group. Yet we emerged at the top of the group with solitary goal victories over Laos and Burma and drew two-two with Hong Kong, with Mohammed Yakoob scoring both our goals. I had scored in the previous two games, I scored in the quarter final against Singapore, too, but we were held 1-1 at full time and at the end of extra time. In the tie-breaker, our goal keeper Prasanta Mitra rose to great heights, saving three of the five kicks from the penalty spot. That virtually helped us win 5-2 and reach the semi final.

The vociferous support from their home crowd made Thailand a more formidable opposition. But our progress thus far made us determined to put our best foot forward and every man back among us raised his game to a new peak. We stunned the Thais. Yakoob got one of the goals in our 2-1 victory and I the other.

Now, in the final we came face to face with reigning champions Iran. We had as much of the game as our more fancied rivals. With Lati tuddin's goal being neutralised by a goal by Iran the final went into extra time. And here I found the net in the opening minute and our defence, in particular, strove manfully to hold on to the slender lead. We almost succeeded. But in the last minute of the game Iran forced a division of the spoils. We had to be content with being joint champions.

That half share in the Asian Youth Soccer Championship has been the high point of my career — I'm 22 — thus far. Neither my previous visit to Bangkok for the 1972 Asian Youth nor the trip to Tehran for the 1973 Asian Youth was as memorable to me. Indeed I was lucky to be exempted from the rule that forbids players from participating in the Asian Youth event for more than two years. The rule was not in force in 1972 when I was the baby of the Indian team. It was introduced only later.

The performances in the 1974 Asian Youth gained some of us promotion to the senior India team the same year and I was one of them. I was in the team that play-

ed in the Merdeka tournament held that year at Ipoh. I played for India in the renovated stadium at Kuala Lumpur in this year's Merdeka, in which I notched a hat-trick against Indonesia.

In fact, I have been fairly successful in my efforts to find the net in international tournaments. Apart from the 1974 Asian Youth, in which I scored five of our team's nine goals, I also got five of our goals in the Marah Halim tournament at Medan, Indonesia, in 1975. Skipper Inder Singh got the other six of our 11 goals.

I have always been a front running player. Twice in my career I had been tried out at outside left and the results have not been satisfactory. The second occasion was in the match against Taiwan in the Marah Halim. With Inder and Habib as strikers, coach Basha played me on the left wing in the first half. He soon saw that I was ineffective there and switched me to the middle in the second half. I got both the goals in our 2-0 win.

The earlier occasion I was put on the left wing was in the Andhra team for the junior National held in Assam in 1970-71. But once the game began I tended to converge into the middle. I seem to be obeying a natural inclination. This, coupled with the advice of Mr. S. A. Ghani, my school teacher, who first taught me the basics of the game to release the ball quickly perhaps goes against my being a good winger. I don't hold on to the ball long enough to draw a defender or two out and then dribble past them and lay passes for my colleagues.

In 1969 I joined Hyderabad Arsenal, one of the nurseries of Hy-

derabad football, with Mateen who, like me, went on to captain India in the Asian Youth and played for India in the last Merdeka, and Abidi, who has played for Andhra in the National Championship. Mateen's elder brother and former Olympian, Hakeem, trained us for a month and did much to make us aware of the benefits of year round practice. That helped speed up my progress.

Besides gaining selection for the state juniors I was picked to play for Hyderabad XI in the Vittal Trophy at Madras in 1971 and for the Tamil Nadu Football Association Shield in 1972. Incidentally, I have not played for Andhra in the senior National. That honour I gained with Maharashtra at Ernakulam in 1973 and at Calicut in 1975. I did not attend the trials for the Jullundur Nationals in 1974 as I was down with jaundice.

While at college I played for Andhra Pradesh Special Police in the Rovers Cup of 1971, joined Tata's in October 1972, but because of inter-state transfer rules began playing for them only in April 1973. I was called for the camp to pick the Indian youth team in March 1972 at Bombay and made the team to Bangkok.

My joining Tata's has helped me develop and I am glad that I opted to play for them though I had and even today have offers from leading clubs of Calcutta. Coach Mohammed Hussain taught me to improve the timing and accuracy of my heading, which has been a strong point in my game. I also had better players around me and they made my job easier.

In particular I struck a good understanding with Johar Das, and while he top scored with 17 goals I got 13 in my first season in the Harwood League, which we won. But it was not all smooth sailing for my team. For we lost the final of the Nadkarni Cup and after a good fight the Rovers Cup.

When we retained the Harwood League title and reached the final of the Rovers Cup against Dempo of Goa the next season we looked set to break the hoodoo of not having the Blue Riband of Western India soccer. But an unfortunate abandonment of the final and injuries scotched our hopes. We lost the replay held about three weeks later.

The disappointment to me was to some extent relieved by our lifting the Nizam Cup at Hyderabad. To me the victory was something special, as I was once again playing at "home" and playing impressively enough to be adjudged the best player of the tournament.

Text: Sharif Shooter
Pic: Pto

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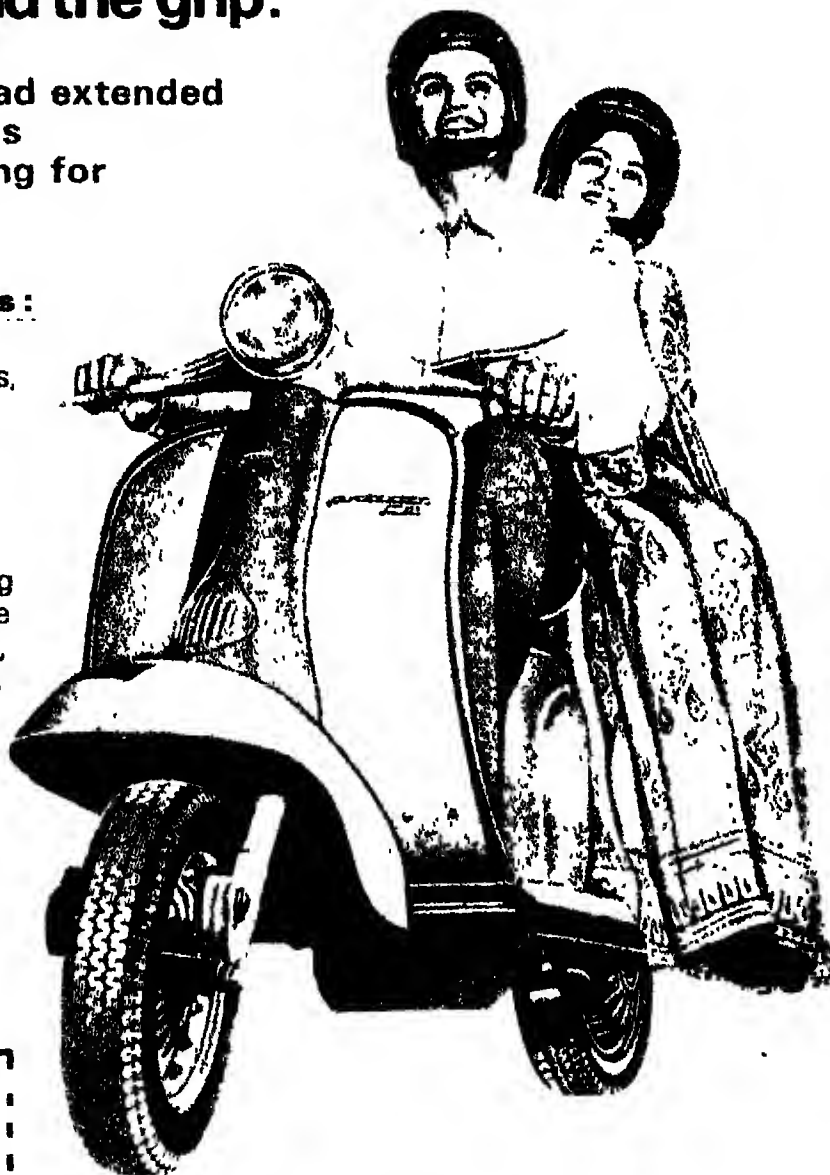
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The ball is taken with the arms at full stretch, above the height of the shoulder



Last of the series

How much do you know?

by HOSEY
MISTRY

1. Who is the winner if two long jumpers' best effort is 8.13 M?
2. What is the length of a badminton court?
3. What is the interval permitted between games of a squash match?
4. Whose duty is it, the starter's

or the referee's, to see that the proper position is assumed at the start of a swimming race?

5. Can bandages of any length be worn by a boxer?
6. May a hockey player stop the ball with his hand or catch it?
7. What are the pieces on the chess board called?

ANSWERS

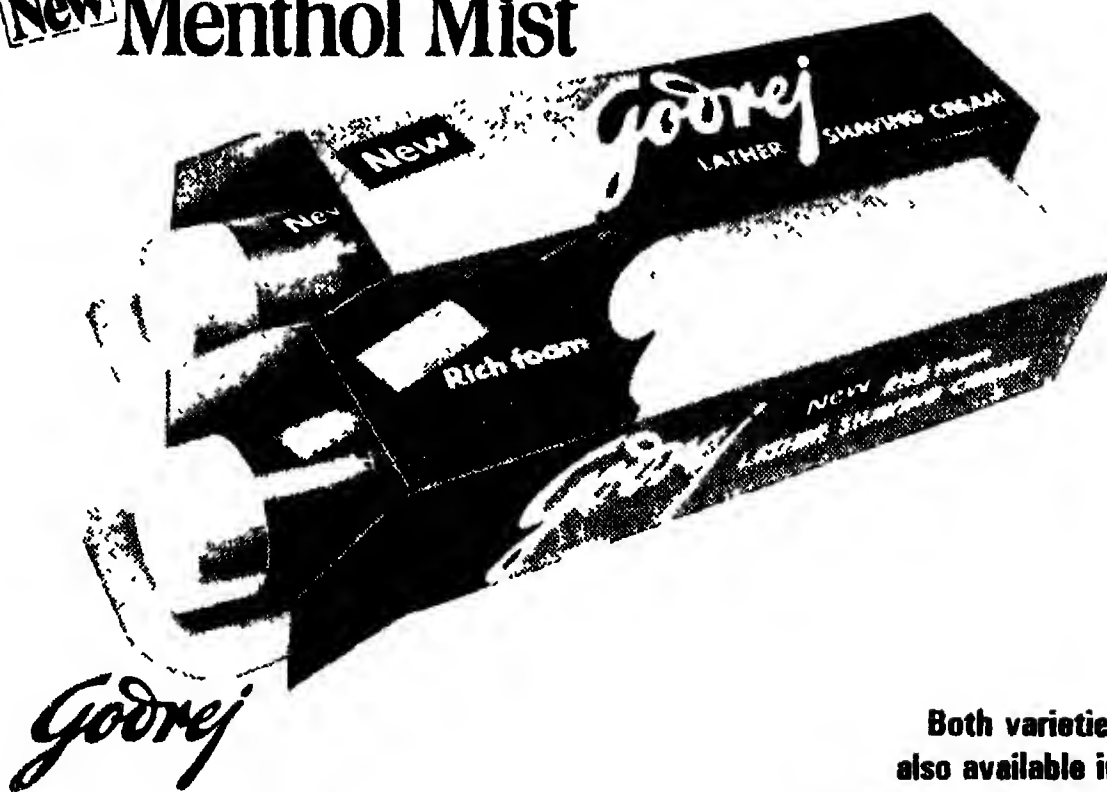
1. The jumper whose next best effort is higher 2.44 ft (13.40 M).
3. One minute between games and two minutes between the fourth and the fifth games.
4. The starter.
5. No, They should not exceed 2.05 metres in length and 5 cms. in width.
6. He may. In the latter case the ball shall be released into play immediately.
7. King, Queen, Rooks, Bishops, Knights and Pawns.

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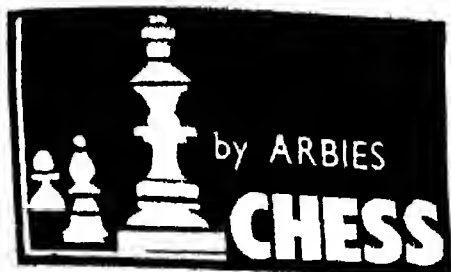


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SACRIFICE of the Knight Pawn to get the open Knight file is one of the weapons of attack when the Kings are castled on opposite wings. In this game Black uses it speedily as an antidote to White's Sozin attack which never gets going. The game was played in the Las Palmas Tournament won by Geller.

SICILIAN DEFENCE

(Sozin Attack)

White: Garcia

Black: Geller

1 PK4, QOB4 2 NKB3, NOB3 3 PQ4, PxP 4 NxP, NB3 5 NOB3, PQ3 6 QOB4 PK3 7 BK3 BK2 8 QK2 (a) NxN 9 BxN, 00 10 000 QR4 11 KN1, BQ2 12 PB3, KRB1 13 PKN4 (b), PQN4 14 BxNP (c), QRN1 15 BxR (d) NxB 16 QO2 (e), QR3 17 PN3, NK4 18 BxN (f), PxP 19 QO3, QR6 20 KR1, QB4 (g) 21 KN2 QR6ch

WF had to pay dearly for the loss of this board at the recent Indian Gymkhana Swiss League. It could have saved us the match and the trophy.

Non-vulnerable against Vulnerable, sitting South I held

xx
Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 2
10 x
nil

The auction proceeded

E	S	W	N
1 S	4 H	4 S	5 H
	?		

I thought the hand was tailor made for sacrifice and also wanted to pave the way for a possible defence against "6 spades" in case my opponents were spurred on to bid it. I bid "6 clubs" and my LHO as anticipated bid "6 spades," which partner doubled, ending the auction.

I led heart deuce and that was curtains for the defence, the full hand being something like this:

Q 1	
A x x	
A x x x	
Q 10 x	
A x x x	K x x x
nil	K
K Q x	J x x
K x x x x	A J x x

xx
Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 2
10 x
nil

22 KR1, QB4 23 KN2, PQR4 24 PQR4 (h), QR6ch 25 KN1, RxPch (i) 26. PxR, QxPch 27 KR1, RxN 28 QO8ch, BB1 29. RQ2, RB5 30 RON2, RxPch 31 KN1, QxP 32 RK1, QOR6 33 R(1)K2 RQ5 White resigns

(a) Fischer prefers 8 BN3 at once. His game with Geller (Skopje 1967) went 8 BN3, 00 9 QK2, QR4 10 000, NxN 11 BxN, BQ2 12 KN1, BB3 13 PB4, QRO1 14 KRB1 PQN4 15 PB5, PN5 16 PxP, PxN 17 PxPch, KR1 18 RB5, QN5 19 QB1, NxP 20 PQR3 (here Fischer claims a win with 20 QKB4, PQ4 21 QK5 or 20 NQ7ch 21 RxN, PxR 22 PB3 or 20 PxP 21 RKR5, NB6ch 22 KxP NxBch 23 KB1) QN2 21 QKB4, BR5 22 QN4, BKB3 24 RxB, BxB White resigns.

(b) White's attack does not proceed beyond this move. If he had anticipated Black's Pawn sacrifice he could have played 13 PK5.

(c) Acceptance of the Pawn gives Black a powerful attack in the QN-file. Preferable was 14 BN3, PN5 15 PK5, PxP 16 QBxKP, PxN 17 BxN, BxB 18 RxB 11. NxP? RxB 15 QxR, BxN wins two pieces for Rook.

(d) If 15 BR6, RxN wins two pieces for Rook, or 15 BB4 PK4 wins a piece.



BRIDGE

by JIMMY MEHTA.

A diamond lead ensures defeat after my bid of "6 clubs" and I think the lead sticks out like a sore thumb though I could not see it at the time.

Partner's double clearly marked him with the Ace of diamonds or spades — He would hardly set store by the heart Ace. He had to have a quick and certain entry to give me the club ruff I had proclaimed.

In the other room, our partners were doubled in "5 spades" — making six. As it happened, even a more wooden approach would have saved the day. Had I mechanically bid "6 hearts" instead of "6 clubs", I would have been compelled to sacrifice "7 hearts" over their "6 spades" on my defenceless hand and escaped for a mere 500.

It happened in the match against Medhekar's team — a bunch of youngsters who performed remark-

(e) Hoping to exchange Queens by the tricky move 17 NQ5, QxQ 18 NxBch etc.

(f) The Knight must be taken as it threatens NxBP as well as NB5.

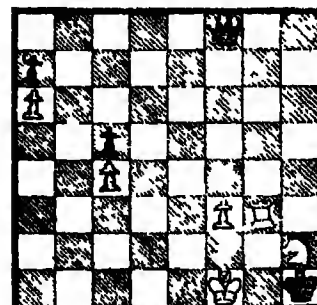
(g) Keeps a masked attack on White's QBP.

(h) There is no adequate defence. On 24 NK1, QB3 the Knight must return and PK5 follows. But the text is immediately fatal.

(i) The Rook sacrifice is easy. Black gains a Knight and several Pawns and thoroughly exposes the White King, after which the mating attack is inescapable.

END GAME

By S. N. Ravi Shankar



White to play and win

ably well to register their first Open Championship win in Bombay. Perhaps, I faltered in a good cause.

Last week's problem hand occurred in a local Swiss League. The defence continued with a second diamond, ruffed high in hand. Dummy was entered via a heart honour and the last diamond ruffed high in hand, after which the club Ace was cashed and the trumps run catching East in a black suit squeeze. Declarer can also get home on similar lines (dummy reversal and squeeze) on a spade return—a low spade ruff in dummy furnishing the entry to dummy for drawing trumps after ruffing two diamonds in hand. In this case South must retain his club Ace as an entry and is required to judge East's distribution in the endgame. A club return at trick two leaves South without resource. The lay-out had been suggested by the bidding.

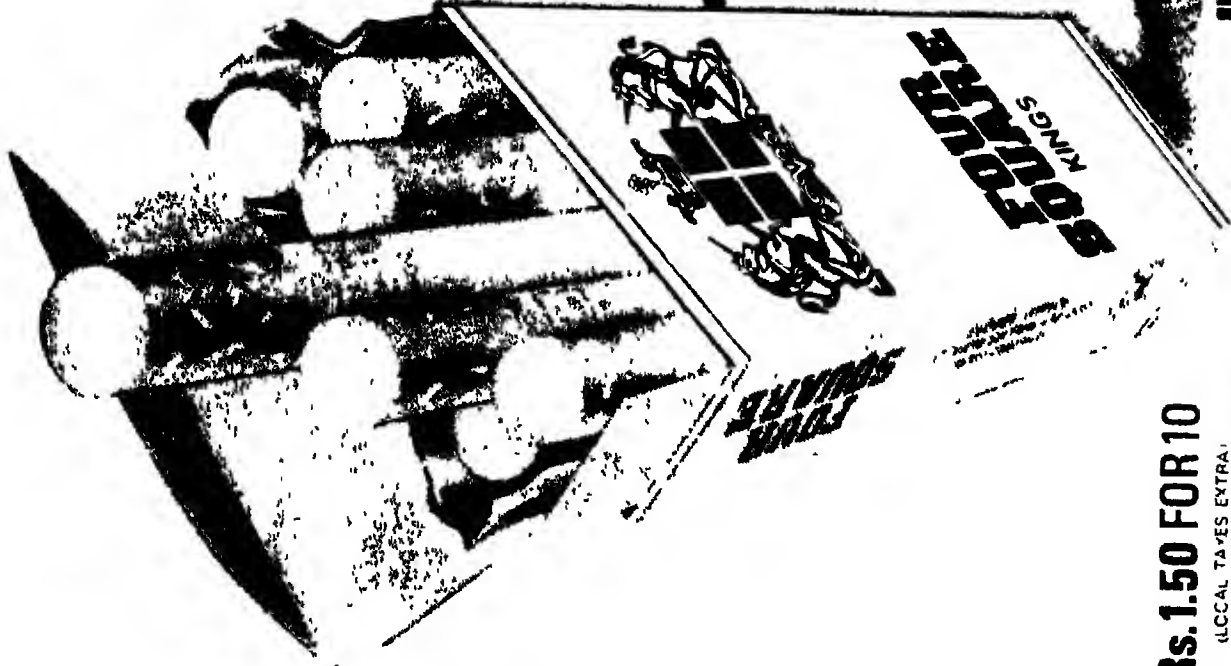
Q J 10 x x
x x x
Q x x x

x
x x x
K Q J 10 x x
x x x

J 10 9 8 7 6
A
A 8 2
K J 10

A K Q x x
A K x x
x
A x x

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MISCELLANY

Mushtaq out, Intikhab back

MUSHTAQ MOHAMMAD has been sacked as Pakistan's captain because he led a revolt by six Test players for more pay on a tour to Australia and the West Indies beginning next month.

The Pakistan Cricket Board, after an emergency council meeting, have appointed Intikhab Alam to lead the touring side. Zahoor Abbas will be his deputy.

The board has deplored what it called Mushtaq's unworthy example in initiating defiance and indiscipline among the players. Mushtaq and five other Test players—Sadiq Mohammad, Asif Iqbal, Majid Khan, Imran Khan and Wasim Bari—refused to sign contracts for the forthcoming tour and demanded increased fees and allowances.

The shock sacking of Mushtaq is seen as a warning that the board is in no mood to make concessions to the players. It has already made clear the tour will go ahead, with or without them. The statement said the names of the six players had been sent to the Pakistan Sports Board, the controlling government body of sport, to consider disciplinary action.

The board criticised Mushtaq as a party to divisive conduct in the team and expressed concern that, as captain, he might victimise those players who did not go along with the six holding out for better terms.

The statement said the board felt this conduct did not meet the requirements of a leader, and that he (Mushtaq) should not be considered for any office of responsibility or trust.

In Northampton, Mushtaq said he was disgusted at being sacked. "I thought I had done a reasonable job against New Zealand and got results when we won 2-0 in the Test matches."

"The players were fully behind me and everything was going well until this nasty situation arose and I don't think it was well handled by the Pakistan Board," Mushtaq added.

"All I asked for was better terms because cricket is my bread and butter. All I was asking for was betterment for myself and the players. I have a wife and three children in Northampton and needed better terms than the board was offering."

Mushtaq was reappointed captain of Northamptonshire last week.



Top: Anil Nayar (right), winner of the Sah & Sanghi Cup for the individual event in the inter-offices squash tournament in Bombay, with Krishna Sanghi, partner, Sah & Sanghi, and Fali Madon runner-up (left). Below: Kailash Ghattani of Tata receiving his award from Mrs. Rukhya Ansari, wife of SPORTSWEEK's Managing Editor Khalid Ansari. At left is Ghulam Mohammed of Mahindra, and Indra Chatterji (centre), Executive Director of Mahindra.



Tata, Anil Nayar win

FOR over a decade Mahindra and Mahindra have been organising the inter-office squash tournament with the dual objectives of (1) promoting the game and (2) bringing together people from diverse businesses.

Since 1971 an open individual event for the Sah & Sanghi Cup is being concurrently held where India's top ranking squash players and promising juniors participate.

The response this year was again encouraging and even the Indian Navy nominated nine players to participate in this tournament.

Mr Indra Chatterji, an enthu-

siastic participant and Executive Director of Mahindra and Mahindra, pointed out at the prize distribution that the idea was to induce executives to play games and improve their mental capacities.

Mr Khalid Ansari, Sportsweek Managing Editor, pointed out that despite the need for family planning, the tribe of such sports promoting organisations had to grow.

Mrs Ansari gave away the prizes. Tata won the Mahindra Cup inter-office tournament beating Mahindra by two matches to one. Anil Navar beat Fali Madon in the finals of the Sah & Sanghi individual event.

Union Bank badminton meet

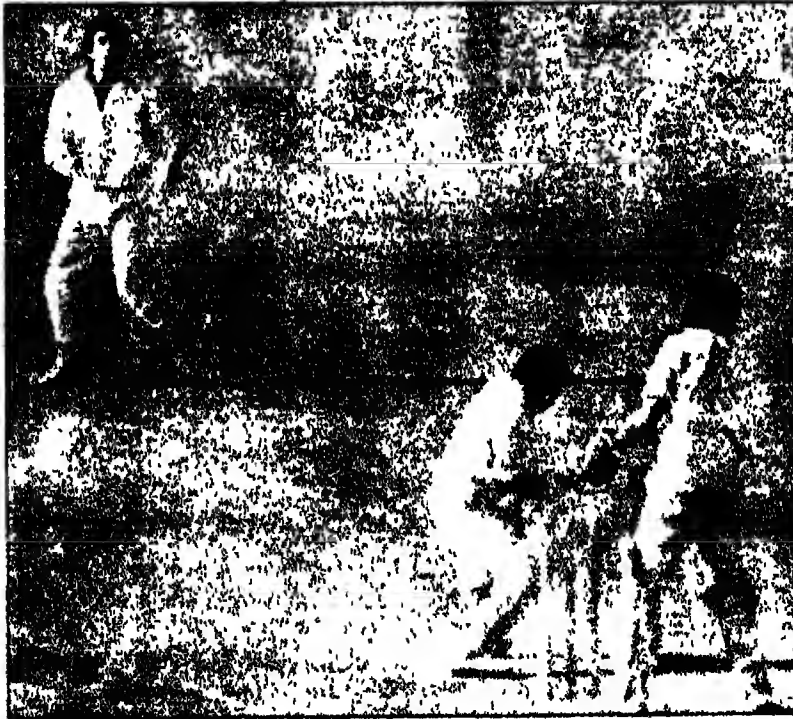
THE Western India Badminton Championships will be for the first time sponsored by a commercial firm and the distinction goes to Union Bank of India. All the leading badminton stars of the country including Prakash Padukone, the national champion for the last five years and an employee of the bank at Bangalore, are expected to participate in the tournament, which will be staged at the Bombay Gymkhana courts from December 7 to 12.

The entries will be accepted at

the bank and the MSBA office till December 1 and the draw will be held on December 3.

O K Gopalan, Managing Director of the bank and chairman of the organising committee of the tournament, stated at a press conference that this would be the forerunner of many more big events that the bank would be holding to encourage sports. He promised to employ talented sportsmen in his unit. The estimated budget earmarked for the competition is Rs 70,000, he said.

The Kanpur Test



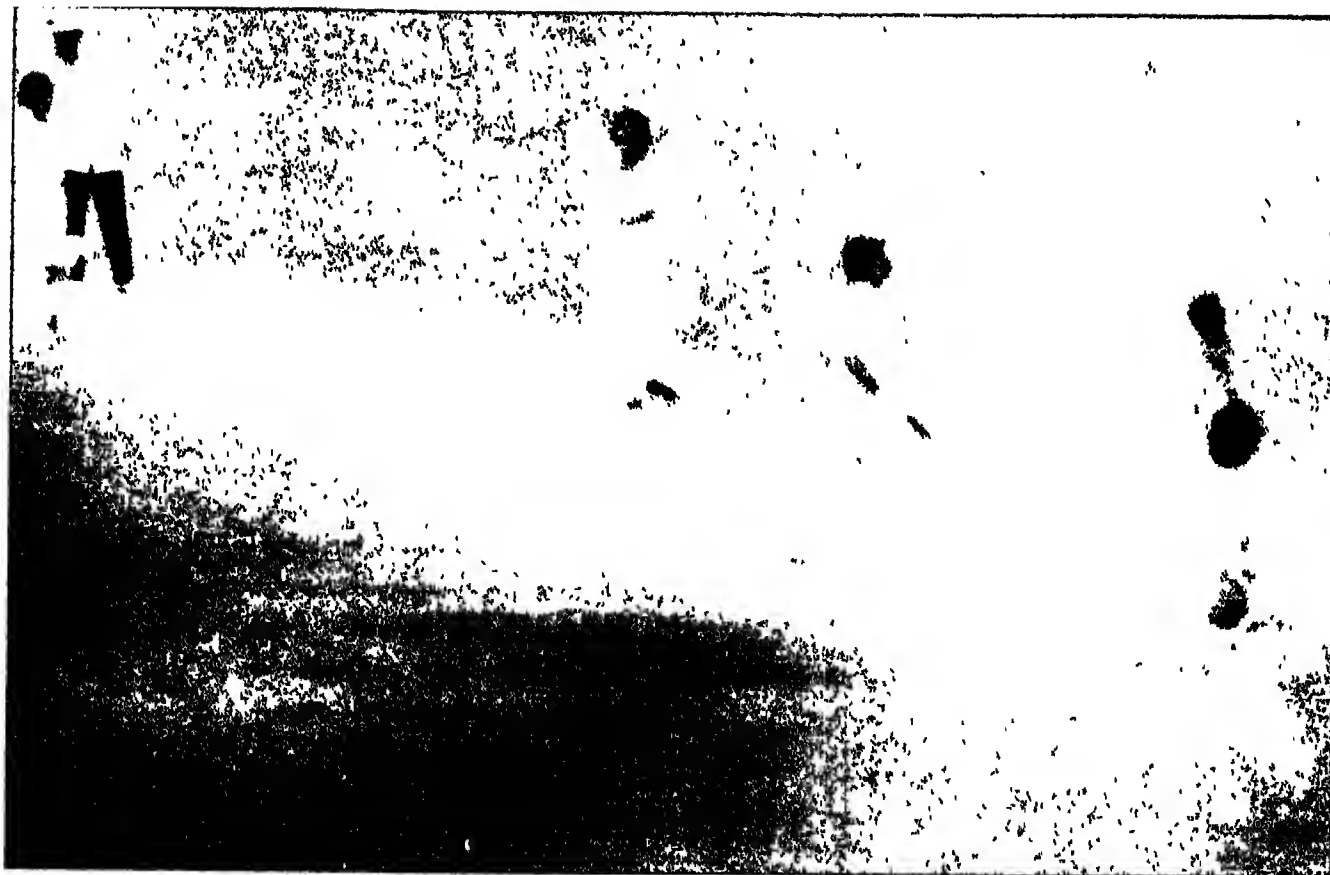
Sunil Gavaskar, who scored a patient 66 in India's first innings, is bowled by O'Sullivan

Pics : KAMAL JULKA



Gavaskar drives O'Sullivan handsomely. Below. Mohinder Amarnath drives Howarth during his innings of 70





Top. Anshuman Gaekwad is caught behind by Lees off Hadlee for 43 in India's first innings. Below: Viswanath square drives O'Sullivan to the cover boundary



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Last date for receiving the application is 15th December 1976.

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Ghulam Ahmed, Hon'y Secretary,
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Hyderabad-500482, Andhra Pradesh



by RAILBIRD

THE early significance of the H M Mehta Gold Cup has been eroded by time. When it was first introduced most of the horses of Classic age were included in the list of entries and the man in the street was given an official assessment of the animals' ratings by the Handicapper. With more and more youngsters racing in Bangalore during the summer their promotion is rapid and the three-year olds cannot possibly be overrated as they would be required to carry a possibly heavy

In consequence, poorer quality horses compete for this rich prize and not since Bakhtawar won in 1965 has any winner amounted to much. Grand Salaam a Paddykin Manini II rig, who was the convincing winner on the opening day of

Darashah on the go

ZAREER DARASHAH is having himself a ball. The young trainer, who is married into the well known "horse" Thompson family, is rapidly emerging as the leading schooler in the south. He was the champion of the Bangalore Summer Meeting with 27 wins from 86 runners, beating Western India's Aziz Mahmoud who had 23 wins from 92 runners. He dominated Mysore, 82 runners bringing him 25 wins while R N Patel, who was second, had 10 winners from 92 runners.

He distinguished himself during the last weekend, winning the prestigious 1,400 metres Chief Minister's Gold Cup with Young Cavalier in Bangalore on Saturday and the rich 1,600 metres Guindy Gold Cup with Tradition in Madras the following day.

The transformation he has brought about with Tradition, a four year old by Young Lochinvar Take Cover and full brother to the celebrated five-year-old Invitation Cup winner Midnight Cowboy, is striking. Tradition was in trainer Anthony's care when he shot into prominence last year in Bangalore by winning the 2,400 metres Bangalore Turf Club Gold Cup in the smart time of 2 minutes, 34.2/5 seconds. This performance earned him many supporters in the

An eroded gold cup

the Bombay Meeting, is no exception to the rule and it is a safe prediction that he will have little say in the forthcoming Classics.

That conclusion is not based on the manner of his winning as he was most impressive, making up a great deal of ground towards the close to thunder past Chashmi-E-Shahi and Al Mabrouk who were disputing the issue. It has been arrived at because of the lack of class amongst those who were behind him. Indeed, the most eye-catching performance by a Classic contender was that of Jamshid.

Jamshid, a Lord Jim-Campari grey, was officially rated one kilo below Grand Salaam before the commencement of the day's proceedings. That rating will now be drastically revised as Jamshid outclassed four Class Four opponents in the 1,000 metres Hotspur Plate, winning unextended by six and a half lengths from Britania, who was bidding for a hat-trick, although Jagdish, who was astride, carried 35 kilos overweight.

The value of Jamshid's performance was enhanced by the time of 1 minute, 12.5 seconds with false

rails up. It is said that when Jamshid made a winning debut as an unfancied runner last January 1 his trainer, D P Pandole, advised Sorab Karaka not to dispose of him on any account as he thought that he had the makings of a second Thunder Storm. That, on the face of it, is an overoptimistic assessment of the grey's capability but there is little doubt that he will be a useful handicapper.

The victories of Jamshid, Hector (1,200 metres Aga Shamsuddin Plate) and Red Pepper (1,000 metres Diva Plate) made punters' faces bright bookmakers' blue and the Handicapper's red. They were all supported to the exclusion of their respective rivals and they all scored by the proverbial street without working up a sweat. Of course, in fairness to the official it must be said that as Jamshid and Hector were running for the first time since last season their rating remained unchanged while those of many of their opponents had gone up because of their subsequent runs.

Until a few years ago there were no races for two year olds. In recent years the new crop raced from the first week in December. This season there are races for them from the opening day. That revision became necessary because of the 1,200 metres India Cup which will be run in conjunction with the 13th Asian Racing Conference on December 5 and which is worth Rs 1,00,000 to the winner.

Two-year olds have never been worked so hard so early and although the prize is the richest, apart from the Indian Derby, for which these animals can compete in Western India, one wonders whether it is prudent from a long term point of view to hurry the preparation of them. That is a question which must disturb owners and trainers.

Washed out

THERE was no racing in Bombay last Sunday, the Stewards of the RWITC having decided to cancel the nine race card because the unseasonal rain had made the conditions unsuitable.

It is most unusual for racing at Mahalaxmi to be affected by the weather, the last occasion which comes to mind being nearly 35 years ago when rain caused the postponement of the Eclipse Stakes of India, which, at that time was the Blue Riband of the Bombay Turf.

BUZZING AROUND

by BUSYBEE

DURING the recent Test in Kanpur, I had the good fortune to sit next to a well-known cricket statistician

"This is the ninth Test on this ground, of which India has won two, lost three and drawn four," he told me "The first two of these Tests were played on matting and the average scoring on matting was 23.22 per cent less than on turf. Only Lala Amarnath and S Rangaswami played in both the Tests played on matting."

"Thank you, Mr. Mama," I said. When it was announced that Bedi had won the toss, he said "This is the sixth time in 11 Tests that Bedi has won the toss. In all, 17 Indian captains have won the toss 112 times and lost it 97 times. The highest number of tosses won by an Indian captain is 18 by Pataudi and the lowest number two by Vijay Merchant."

"Yes," I said.

Q WHO was the first Indian to score a double century against the West Indies?

—N Pandya (Ahmedabad)

A DILIP SARDESAI. He made 212 in the first Test at Kingston in 1971.

Q WHAT was former wicket keeper Budhi Kunderan's highest score in Tests?

—P Sundareswaran (Bombay 20)

A 192 against England in the first Test at Madras in 1964.

Q HOW many catches have been held by C. R. Viswanath in Tests?

—Ulhas Bhorkar (Bhopal)

A NINETEEN in 31 matches, including the first Test of the current series with New Zealand where he could have increased his tally by one.

Q WHO is the best player of cricket now?

—Ganesh Prasad (Sahaganj)

A COMETH the hour, cometh the man.

when a player other than a captain participated in the toss, W. J. Edrich and Jim Laker in Australia in 1946 and 1954 and W. Ferguson in Delhi in 1956," he said.

"Good," I said.

When Gavaskar came in to bat with Gaekwad, the statistician turned to me and said "This is the 16th partner that is being tried out with Gavaskar to open the innings. Engineer has partnered him 13 times, which is the highest number, and the lowest is once by Parthasarathy Sharma and Mohinder Amarnath. Amarnath is only the third batsman to have been promoted to open the innings after having started among the last four. The others are Chandu Saiwate and Madhav Mantri."

"I see," I said.

When Gavaskar was missed at third slip, the statistician told me "This is the 18th time in his Test career that he has been missed by the third slip. He has scored under 20 in the 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th of these times by the first slip."

"Interesting," I said.

At lunch, he told me "This is the 27th time that India has scored by lunch on the first day more than a hundred runs. Of the 27 times, 22 have been in Tests played in India; the remaining have been three in New Zealand,

one in Australia and one in the West Indies. The highest score in the pre-lunch session on the opening day has been 146 by P. Roy and F. Engineer in Madras in 1964."

"Fine," I said.

When Viswanath came in to bat, he said "He is one of the two Indian players who have scored a century on their debut in Kanpur. His Test average, at the moment, is 42.86, though against New Zealand alone it is 45.55. Seven times he has been out leg before wicket to New Zealand bowlers, which is the second highest number of times any Indian batsman has been out leg before wicket to New Zealand bowlers."

"Yes," I said.

And when Brijesh Patel was dismissed cheaply, he said "This is the 15th time in 22 innings that he has been dismissed for a score under ten. So far he had run out 13 players, five of them with a direct throw on to the wicket from the outfield. His 15th dismissal or run out victim has been the West Indian."

And on the arrival of Mankad, he said "Three times he has been dropped by selectors for periods of five, seven and nine matches in a row. The only other player to have been so dropped is C. D. Gopinath of Madras."

QUESTION BOX

Q A batsman is waiting for the bowler when the wind blows his cap on to the wicket and breaks it. Is the batsman out?

—K. Rabindranath (Bangalore 50)

A NO.

Q AS a bowler runs up to send down the first ball of an over he pulls a muscle and has to be carried off. What action should the umpire take?

—M. L. Srinath (Bangalore 10)

A ASK the fielding side captain to bring on another bowler.

Q COULDN'T "Sportsweek" publish a series of lessons on volleyball?

—Rubino Caldeira (Merces, Goa)

A PATIENCE!

Q WHO are the current Asian basketball champions?

—Ranjan Choudhury (Calcutta 4)

A CHINA.

Gift to teams



Universal Luggage's Director J. F. Louzado presents an Aristocrat suitcase to New Zealand captain Glenn Turner in Bombay. Each member of both teams received a suitcase.

MAIL BAG

Speed or spin

THE choice 'Speed or Spin' that should govern the composition of the Indian cricket team for Test matches has become a magnificent obsession. To say that 'the problem, for obvious reasons, does not lend itself to easy resolution in India' only tantamounts to begging the question.

The competitive urge to win matches the world over has unearthed, in a phenomenal way, the requisite talent resulting in upset of 'expectations' in the pattern of this traditional game of the Commonwealth countries. 'Speed or Perish' is the lesson handed down in the recent encounters in international cricket.

In this connection, you have already done a lot to voice your views and the views of your readers through the columns of your weekly. Since a viable solution to the problem can emanate only from a well-knit plan covering all aspects of the issue spanning a period of time, you could perhaps make a further contribution by inviting public views, through the columns of your popular magazine (with probably a monetary reward for the best contribution) in the form of a write-up wherein the reader could set out detailed proposals which could generate further thought and views on the subject on an all-India basis to serve as pointers to the authorities concerned.

—V Srinivasan (Madras)

THE exclusion of Chetan Chauhan from the squad for the second Test raised many eyebrows among the cricket followers. How was the confidence of the selectors in Chauhan's cricketering abilities suddenly shattered? Why was Chauhan included in the squad for the first Test if he was to be dropped for the second without a trial? With a Damocles Sword hanging over our cricketers' heads, can they be expected to perform well?

—C. S. Chauhan (Bombay)

IWOULD like to congratulate S Venkatraghavan for capturing 100 wickets in Test cricket. His feat is all the more laudable as he has had to face many ups and downs.

—S Kanappan (Madurai)

Sporting?

I THOUGHT the world would never again see such a noble captain as Sir Frank Worrell. But I was proved wrong by none other than Glenn Turner, one of the world's best batsmen and of course the noblest captain at present. Remember, the way he took defeat at Bombay. So sportsmanlike! Could you imagine what would have been the reaction of an Ian Chappell or a Clive Lloyd to such controversial decisions by the umpires? No praise can be too high for Turner.

—Shamshad Ahmed (Bombay)

GLENN TURNER made a remark about the Bombay crowd booing the New Zealand batsmen after they were out. But I would like to point out how Collinge behaved when Brijesh Patel was out after scoring a magnificent 82. The crowd had cheered every brilliant stroke made by Brijesh and when Collinge finally caught him,



Was the Bombay crowd anti-Kiwi? Not by the looks of Richard Collinge's antics

the Kiwi fast bowler seemed to rebuke people in the North Stand by looking at them and saying, 'You were cheering every stroke of Brijesh, now cheer him when he is out'. Probably this is the way the New Zealand players say bad luck when a batsman is out after a brilliant knock.

I would also like to point out that during the first Test the crowd was quite impartial. Both Brijesh Patel and Viswanath were jeered after lapses in the field.

—H A Sampat (Bombay)

Warning

IN view of the widespread intimidatory bowling nowadays, it is about time that sports-goods manufacturers take the cue from cigarette companies and inscribe on all cricket balls the legend — "Statutory warning: intimidatory bowling is injurious to health".

—Anil Mathur (Bombay)

Fab Issue

THE July-September 1976 issue of SPORTSWEEK's World of Cricket was excellent. Tony Cozier's comprehensive report on the West Indies-England series was splendid with lively action pictures. The 'pick of the lot' photograph is the one appearing on page 43 showing Richards making an off drive with Allan Knott behind him. Career records of Test players and first-class players was informative. It is a feast for the cricket lover.

—R Vasudevan (Bombay).

WOW!! Your "World of Cricket" sure was groovy — the articles terrific. The article which attracted me most was "Hail King Farokh".

—Navroze D Dhondy (Allahabad)

Congrats

HATS off to you chap at SPORTSWEEK. I really wonder how you do it unless, I presume, you have a jet-set staff and machines at your disposal. Within 36 hours of the end of the first Test, your issue of November 21 hit the stands. It was fantastic. Keep it up.

—Balendu Sood (Bombay 51)

WAS I dreaming? No I had your issue of SPORTSWEEK dated November 21 on Wednesday evening, covering the first Test between India and New Zealand with expert comments and lovely action pics. And all this you were able to do in such a short time. You really deserve our sincere thanks.

—Mala Kaurak (Bombay 14)

THE idea of a master plan for sport has come at the right moment. Mere words cannot express my congratulations to you. I am sure the plan will finally be drawn on practical lines and translated into action without delay or difficulty. In doing so, SPORTSWEEK readers can play a vital role. If necessary, a suitable questionnaire may be evolved to pool together the opinions of those who are in the know of things.

—K Ramaswamy (Mysore).

WITH reference to your editorial in SPORTSWEEK of November 21, you have stated that Chandrasekhar made his 'highest ever' score (i.e. 20*) in the recently concluded first Test versus New Zealanders. This is incorrect. Chandrasekhar's highest ever score is 22, in the second innings of the third Test against England at Birmingham in 1967. India lost that match by 132 runs.

—Parag Kamani (Bombay)



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EDITORIAL

from p 5

Bedi's stewardship of the Players Association (as is the Pakistan Board of Bedi's Northants captain Mushtaq Mohammed), which has been agitating for better terms on the grounds that it is, after all, the players who are responsible for the fabulous profits. Among the demands have been higher remuneration and better accommodation, similar to that of Board officials, particularly during Ranji, Duleep and Irani trophy matches.

The dispute has assumed prestigious proportions. Bedi with his known propensity to call a spade a shovel is said to be willing to sacrifice his captaincy in his 'martyrdom' to secure better terms and security for his teammates. The Board, on its part, maintains that the players are being well looked after, the more so after the recent increase in emoluments and the setting up of a provident fund scheme for Test cricketers.

This dispute hardly augurs well for the future of the game. Morale and team spirit are bound to suffer if the imbroglio continues. It is learnt that the Pakistan Government has intervened in the dispute in that country. Will ours do so?



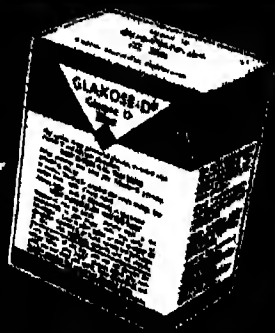
From London to Bombay in a vintage Rolls that's what Adrian Liddell (left), the owner of the Rolls, John Woodcock, cricket correspondent of the London Times, Mrs. Judy Casey and Mr. Michael Bennett accomplished. Sharing their adventure was Henry Blofeld, cricket correspondent of The Guardian (not in pic). The quintet covered 8,000 miles in 47 days in their "Silver Ghost."



Tennis star Bjorn Borg (20) has exchanged engagement rings with Mariana Simionescu (19), Rumania's second ranked woman tennis player until her defection to the United States last month, reports TIME magazine. Mariana says she and Borg have not yet set a wedding date. Her guess? "Perhaps in two or three years."



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S Gavaskar

B S Chandrasekhar

B Patel

G Viswanath

A Gaekwad



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- 2 The Contest will be judged by a panel of independent judges, whose decision will be final and binding. No correspondence will be entertained
- 3 No responsibility will be accepted for delayed receipt, non receipt or misplacement of entries
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- 6 There will be only one prize per entry
- 7 The Contest closes on 28th February 1977

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☐ B S Chandrasekhar
☐ B Patel
☐ G Viswanath
☐ A Gaekwad

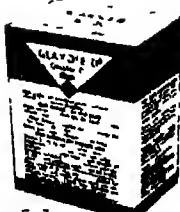
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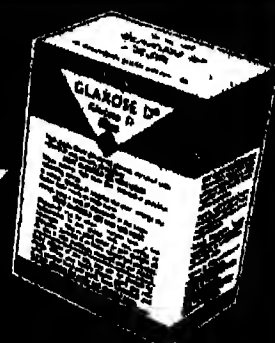




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S Gavaskar

B S Chandrasekhar

B Patel

G Vishwanath

A Gaekwad



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- ☐ S Gavaskar
☐ B S Chandrasekhar
☐ B Patel
☐ G Vishwanath
☐ A Gaekwad

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Grand Prix— a colossal flop!

A COLOSSAL flop — financially and tennis wise!

That in a nutshell is the story of the Bangalore Grand Prix.

In point of fact, of the four Grand Prix tournaments played in the country so far, the one just concluded was by far the poorest.

Not as regards organisation, mind you, or the performances of our own players which thanks to the quality of the entries, was the best ever. But for the fact that the gargantuan expenditure (by our standards, at any rate) of fifteen lakhs, including the prize money, in foreign exchange, of 50,000 dollars, was for practical purposes, money down the drain, not to mention the expenditure of Rs 18 lakhs on a new stadium.

Whether or not this stadium, built in double quick time, will be put to regular and proper use remains to be seen.

Viewed in correct perspective — and this is not by way of holding a brief for anyone — the Indian Open was what it was due largely to the fact that it was the last tournament on the circuit, by which time most of the big 'guns' had become tired and homesick.

And what with the qualifying proceedings for the Masters having been settled, they did not find any incentive to participate in a one-star, 50,000 dollar tournament which, besides does not fit in easily — geographically and schedule wise — with other tournaments on the Asian-Pacific circuit, as do those on the European one.

In sum, therefore, the Grand Prix of the garden city was an august assemblage of what in the international tennis idiom are referred to as tennis 'bums'. Pride of place in the seedings went to Dick Crealy who ranks no higher than 40th in the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) computerised rankings and as luck would have it, Crealy was beaten by compatriot Bob Carmichael in the second round!

Second seeded Geoff Masters inexplicably failed to turn up and the third seed, Ray Ruffles, conceded his first round match to George Hardie mid way in protest against the 'rude' behaviour of the crowd.

And to top it all, the spoil-sport rain 'gods' did their best to dampen whatever enthusiasm and interest was left in the tournament thereafter, nay from the very start, when Vijay Amritraj whose spectator-appeal can, by itself, make or mar any tournament, cried off as a result of injury.

To our way of thinking, the only heartening feature of the Bangalore Grand Prix was the gallant performance of Sashi Menon who, despite the mediocrity of the opposition, did extremely well to finish runner-up to Kim Warwick, defeating Haroon

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INSIDE

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COVER Tony Greig, Captain of the visiting MCC team. Transparency Central Press Photos, London

Rahim, who is said to have endeared himself to the crowds by his gentlemanly deportment, and Australian Alvin Gardiner.

Another silver lining was the performance of the Indian players, of whom as many as eight qualified for the tournament proper, even when one makes allowance for the 'quality' of the entries, and from among whom Ashok Amritraj, despite his poor record elsewhere this season, advanced to the quarter-finals.

It would be grossly unfair to put the entire blame for the fiasco that was the Indian Open on the local association which, and one is going by reports again, did everything within its power to make the tournament an organisational success.

Who, then, is to blame? The ALLTA, despite all the 'ifs' and 'buts' which it will undoubtedly advance? And/or the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) which is seemingly accorded step motherly treatment in the matter of allotment of dates and weightage to some Asian tournaments?

As things stand at the moment, the Grand Prix is for us, undoubtedly, a waste of time, effort and precious money which can be infinitely better utilised for the promotion of the game in the country.

An international tournament like the Grand Prix is indeed desirable to generate interest in, and promote the standard of, the game but things aren't working out that way. So what do we do? Opt out of the Asian circuit?

Food for thought, this, for the powers-that-be.

No ifs, its India

INDIA made good use of an under-prepared pitch that broke away badly in many spots and thus scored a clear win in the third Test at Madras. The win was well achieved and made up for whatever reservations the Kiwis had about managing a draw at Bombay.

Bedi and Chandra are top spinners by any standard and in both innings they bowled as well as anyone could, except maybe Underwood who seems to do pretty well against New Zealand on this sort of pitch.

Once again there were several bad umpiring decisions, three against New Zealand and one against India that were very bad.

On the second day Kirmani was clearly run out when his sliding bat stuck in the mud and never at any stage crossed the crease as Howarth threw down his wicket. On the fifth day Gaekwad nicked

off a ball with his bat. Two fielders clearly saw this happen and the ball fell off into the wind. But he was given not out. There was no possible other way the ball could have fallen off.

by **ALAN GRAHAM**

of the New Zealand
Press Association, Wellington

The same day Mohinder Amarnath was given not out to a catch down the leg side because so the umpire said, he hit it into the ground. I don't know if he nicked it or not, but the Kiwis say he did and it certainly never hit the ground.

Finally, on the same day, Gavaskar was given out stumped when Lees dropped the ball and broke the stumps with his gloves. Not one New Zealander appealed, but the finger still went up. I appreciate that both umpires are not

normally Test men and were pitched into the Test at the last minute by circumstances. But these four decisions were appalling as were several minor things they did.

One day they told the Kiwis they must not even walk on the ground because it was too wet. Turner agreed yet four minutes later when the Indian team began a fielding practice session on the field, the umpires said there was nothing they could do about it.

The umpires also said the outfield could not be mown before New Zealand's Test, that it never done in India and would be unfair. Yet the BCCI, the governing body in India this season says the outfield shall be mown. Some of the Kiwi and Indian fielders recently have not been the best but equally no Indian can take any credit for the incompetent stand aid of top level umpiring here. At least the decisions did not affect the result at Madras.

India thoroughly deserved to win. Everyone was sorry that the start of the Test had to be delayed by one day but both captains agreed there was no alternative. The outfield and surroundings were extremely wet and it would have been silly to start early.

Once again New Zealand lost the toss that brought the record to six lost tosses in six Tests on this tour. Heartbreaking in matches were it is vital to bat first.

It was another bad blow for New Zealand that the major striking force, Richard Hadlee, went down with bad gastro-enteritis after bowling only one over and then collapsed after bowling only three overs. He bowled no more that day and was only half fit next day when he took three wickets.

Nevertheless New Zealand did not bowl well in the first innings. There is no denying that fact, and even allowing for the Kirmani decision, the Kiwis should have had India out for around 200.

As it was India made 298. Viswanath nicked his first ball inches short of John Parker at slip (Parker had earlier taken a great catch to dismiss Gaekwad). After that he batted superbly in a match-winning display. After a slow start at Bombay he has really batted better than Sunil Gavaskar in this series and has played some delightful shots. Venkat also batted well,

continued on p 39



Viswanath, who scored a magnificent 87, drives Petherick

Cricket twixt rain & shine

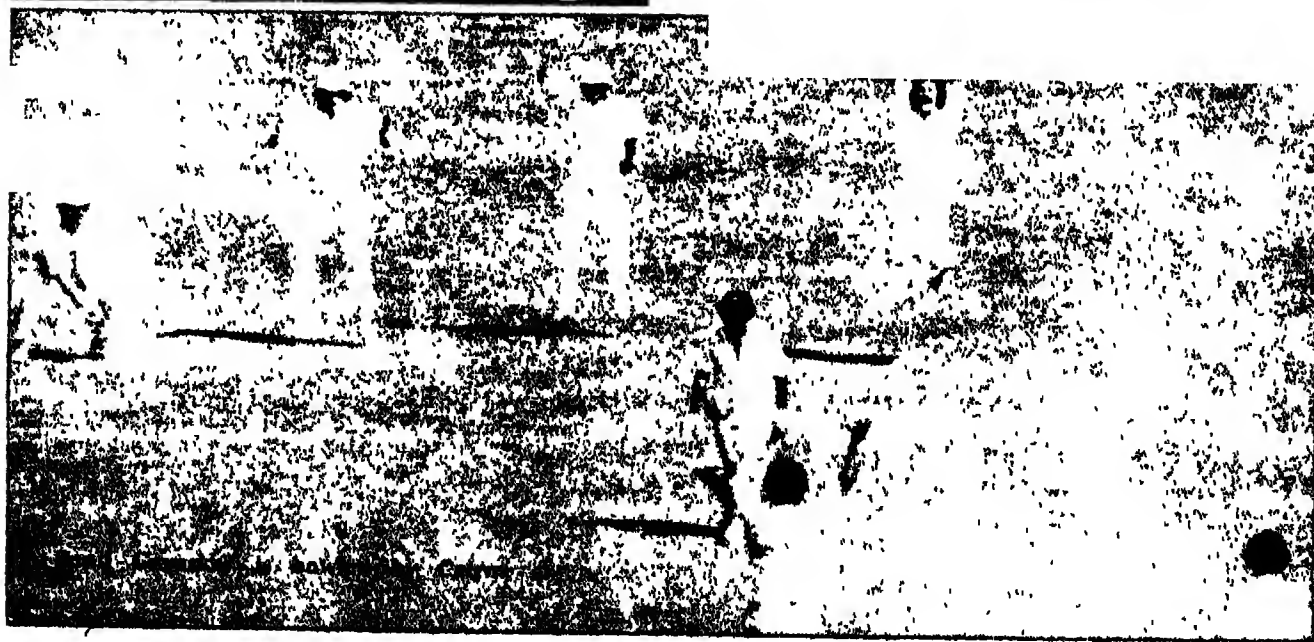


Mohinder Amarnath is caught by Petherick (short-leg) off Cairns in India's first innings. Below Cairns is congratulated by teammates after he had bagged five wickets for 55



Venkatraghavan, who scored his highest Test score of 64, lofts Petherick to the fence

Pics: BALAJI PHOTOGRAPHS



MCC v WEST ZONE

by SHARAD KOTNIS

Tourists start with a bang

At the MCC's press conference in Bombay, skipper Tony Greig had said that he was not at all worried about his indifferent batting form "Give me some time to settle down and I'll be on the top of the world," he had said. And he really was there at Pune's Nehru Stadium on all the three days of MCC's opening match against West Zone.

In fact, it was Greig all the way, bowling, batting, fielding or reacting to spectators' applause. He held the stage and lived up to his title of "Mr Popular."

The MCC could not have hoped for a better pitch for batting practice. It became easier and easier as the match progressed. Except for Dennis Amiss, who was dismissed cheaply and Derek Randall, who was unfortunately run out, all the other MCC frontliners enjoyed themselves.

Mike Brearley, Keith Fletcher and Tony Greig recorded centuries, the first going on to score a double century.

Amiss now shuffles his right foot across in front of the off stump for each delivery. This was something new to those who had seen him on the last tour. This was his undoing as he was trapped in front by Parsana who brought one in.

Mike Brearley was thoroughly professional in his approach. Building and nursing his innings in the pre-lunch session and then going

for the runs he really punished a tiring attack. He has a peculiar way of raising his bat over his head before crouching into his stance but once he had the measure of the attack, he launched a furious attack which just scattered the field.

Fletcher is a good player of spin and he still looks a stylish batsman.



Tony Greig dancing with a fan

man. Both Brearley and Fletcher used the sweep to good purpose against anything pitched near their feet, but on a slightly helpful wicket against our ace spinners, this stroke may prove their undoing.

Greig, with his long reach slammed the bowling to all parts of the field, hitting as many as seven sixes, four of them in succession in one over. He thumped the ball with great power and left the fieldsmen applauding his strokes. If he maintains this form, it will be hard to dislodge him.

West Zone were weak in batting. The bowling was more or less the same with which they had recently regained the Duleep Trophy, except for Ghavri, who in any case would not have made a lot of difference. Three left-arm spinners and an off-spinner were on view, but surprisingly none flighted the ball. A little flight on the dead wicket would have certainly helped



Keith Fletcher

in containing the free stroking MCC batsmen.

As for the West Zone batting, Dilip Vengsarkar and Eknath Solkar came good, along with local boy Raju Bhalekar, while Ramnath Parkar showed that he is completely at sea against the moving ball. Vengsarkar's defence looked tight, and he did not fail to punish the loose ball. He steered the new ball cautiously through the cordon of four slips and later thumped it through the covers or past mid-on with ease and elegance. Solkar nursed the innings along with Bhalekar after four wickets had gone rather cheaply. He first dug himself in and then went for his strokes after he had settled down. Surviving an early life, Bhalekar timed his strokes well.

Chris Old and Bob Willis bowled with greater hostility with the second new ball. With the first, they were content to lure the batsmen with a lot of stuff outside the off-stump. Willis went flat out and was able to move the ball into the batsmen from the off. They had the last five West Zone wickets for the addition of only 11 runs in 25 balls. Mike Selvey with his medium pace deliveries was economical and kept the scoring rate down. Geoff Cope, the off-spinner sent down 22 overs in a spell. There was nothing suspect in his action.

PICS: HOSEY MISTRY

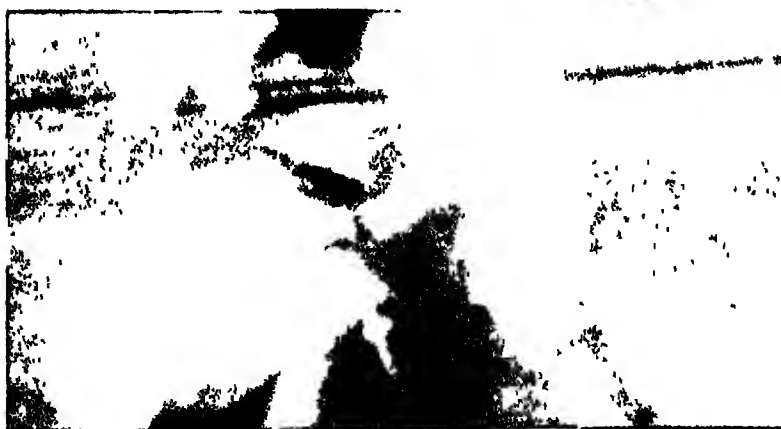
SPORTSWEEK, December 5, 1976



Mike Brearley



West Zone keeper Vijay Shetty (left) departs with his stump hicken by Willis
In comes next batsman Shivalkar with a replacement for the broken
stump, but Tony Greig (right) would rather have the bat



The hook as executed by
Vengarkar (left) and
Vaiurvindia Singh

PICS: GOPAL BHAT

Greig's back there
at silly point and
Uday Joshi
doesn't seem
to like it

None has a nose for class . .

Scrap this selection panel

by RUSI MODI

THE cricket selection committee as it is constituted today needs to be radically changed. They are certainly all men of honour and integrity but unfortunately not one of them has as we say a nose for class. To quote Neville Cardus: 'If you can't recognise it immediately, no material demonstration will help you'.

The chairman is away on business most of the time. If his business preoccupations keep him away from committee meetings, he should resign as Vijay Merchant did after his illness. Our selectors cannot detect class, and go solely by theories and statistics.

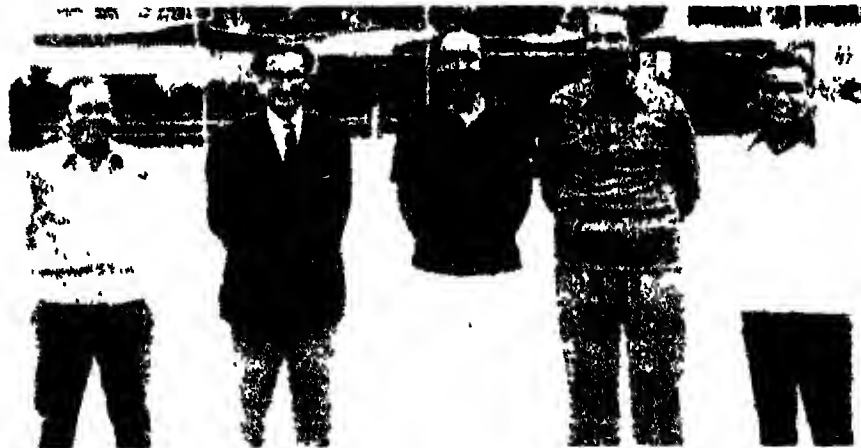
Chetan Chauhan was among the 14 for the first Test against New Zealand at Bombay on the strength of his performances in the Ranji Trophy against weak opposition. Chauhan has had a fair trial against Australia, England and the West Indies, but was found lacking in class. Under the circumstances he should never have been selected. But after including him in the 14 for the first Test, the selectors dropped him like the proverbial hot potato. That is most certainly not fair to Chauhan.

After the Kanpur Test, Dilip Vengsarkar too faced the same predicament. As India's best cricket prospect in recent years Vengsarkar must be encouraged and persevered with care. K. N. Prabhu who was on the recent tour of New Zealand and West Indies has this

to say about the omission of Vengsarkar:

'It would be interesting to know the reason for Vengsarkar's omission from the side for the final Test against New Zealand. Did any of the worthy gentlemen, who sat in judgment on him, care to go into Vengsarkar's record in the West Indies — especially during the bloodbath at Kingston when Vengsarkar stood up unflinchingly to the blatantly intimidatory tactics of Holding and Daniel?'

The selectors surprisingly resurrected Sharma instead for the final



The selection committee Roy (left), Ghorpade, Gopinath, Raj Singh and Vijay Mehra

Test at Madras. Sharma is a good player of slow bowling, but his fielding leaves much to be desired. Besides, I have it on good authority that he was most hesitant about facing the West Indian battery of fast bowlers on the recent tour of the Caribbean.

This attitude is certainly not conducive to good cricket. Moreover, his running between the wickets is atrocious. If he gets Viswanath or Gavaskar run out it would mean 100 runs less for the side.

Then came that faith-shattering decision of appointing Bedi, captain for the first two Tests only in the three Test series against New Zealand — not an extraordinary decision though from our selectors! All reports indicated that Bedi did a grand job of captaining India in New Zealand and the West Indies. In fact, he is the obvious choice as India captain. For there is no other deserving candidate for the job — Gavaskar is too raw and Venkat is not sure of his place.

Strange ways — Pat

WRITING on the first India-New Zealand Test in the current issue of "Sunday," Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi terms the ways of the selectors as "strange."

Criticising the inclusion, then exclusion, of Chetan Chauhan, says Pataudi, "the selectors have not been exactly far-sighted, not for the first time either. It's happened before in my time. Sometimes their ways are strange."

In any case, Bedi is a far more imaginative skipper than his rivals. What is most surprising, however, is the fact that the very same people who raised a hue and cry when in 1964 Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi was appointed captain for

the first two Tests only against the MCC team skippered by Mike Smith, have been responsible for the shocking decision.

It is indeed very difficult for a captain to function effectively when the selectors do not show enough faith in him. I repeat Bedi is the only choice as captain and I am glad to note that wiser counsels have prevailed and he has now been appointed captain for all the five Tests against England.

The way the selectors have gone about has shattered the confidence of the players completely. With the changes made from time to time, the players realise that they are on trial in every match and that one slip could mean the end of their careers. No cricketer can give of his best under such circumstances.

The selection of a national side is by no means an easy task but I feel that the selectors have failed to take into consideration certain cardinal principles.

We was wrong

THE printer's devil can perform the darndest of feats, as happened last week regarding the authorship of the Kanpur Test despatches from Dicky Rutnagur and Alan Graham.

To begin with, the cabled despatches received by us were most confusing. And to make matters worse, the old devil attributed Dicky Rutnagur's article to Alan Graham and vice-versa.

Our sincere apologies to both Rutnagur and Graham and, of course, to our readers.

—K A

THE ART OF CRICKET

The pull and hook strokes

I ADVOCATE concentrated net practice to perfect the technique, and repeat my warning not to try to pull the ball unless it is pitched well short of a length. Even then the great danger is the irregularity of the height of bounce after it pitches.

In addition to pulling the ball by the method outlined, I frequently employed a slightly different technique. The difference between the two pull shots is this:

Instead of putting the right foot back and across to the off side, just put the right foot straight back. Then, as the ball is hit between mid-on and square-leg, pull your body away from the line of flight as the left foot is swung round to the leg side whilst you pivot on the right foot.

In this way tremendous power can be generated, even more than with the other method, because there seems to be scope for greater leverage. The whole mechanism of the wrists, arms and body can be harnessed to give the ball a tremendous crack.

Should the ball be missed, it will pass on the off side of the body, often with fatal results, because the ideal ball to pull in this way is one delivered on the stumps.

With the orthodox pull one has to finish within the crease area and must be careful, in swinging the body round, not to hit the stumps. But this way there is virtually no limit to the pivotal action which ends with the weight on the left leg.

If a fast bowler is trying to engineer a catch on the leg side off a hook shot, this alternative type of pull shot offers a counter because it holds better prospects of pulling a ball which is bouncing quite high and still keeping it down. In fact, it is the easiest of the lot to keep down with those rolling wrists.

But it has its risks, especially when the ball is coming in towards the body.

I tried it against Bill Bowes at Bramall Lane and had my cap tilted sideways when the ball hit the peak, but then who wants to play cricket at all if not prepared to take a chance occasionally?

Just one caution. Don't try the pull shot on a greasy pitch after a shower of rain. Or if you do, have a spare set of teeth ready.

There is a good deal of argu-

ment as to the difference between a hook shot and a pull shot. I don't propose to try to settle the argument, which is not really important anyway.

However, my description of a hook applies to a ball delivered with some speed, pitched short either on the stumps or on the leg side thereof, where the batsman steps inside the line of flight and hooks the ball behind square leg.

The pull shot to me is where the ball is literally pulled off direction from the stumps or even from the off side of the stumps with a horizontal bat, mainly in front of square leg.

It is usually executed against slow or medium-pace bowlers,

by SIR DONALD BRADMAN

whereas the hook is mostly played against the faster bowlers.

Assuming a fast bowler to be dropping the ball half way up the pitch on or about the leg stump, it will normally rise somewhere about shoulder height and, in fact, will very often come up straight towards the batsman's left shoulder. By maintaining his original position, or by going back on to his stumps defensively, the batsman may find it hard to keep the ball down or steer it clear of those close-in fieldsmen on the leg side. Moreover, he is in some danger of being struck by the ball.

The safest method, physically and cricket wise, is for the striker to move inside the line of flight so that the ball will pass on the leg side of his body.

It is well known by experienced batsmen that this type of delivery will nearly always tend to come in towards the body after pitching. That is an additional reason why it is safer and more correct to move your body towards the off. Even if the ball bounces head high it will sail harmlessly by.

To play the hook, move back and across with the right foot and as the ball rises towards your chest or shoulder, swing it away some-

where between square leg and the wicketkeeper. The right foot becomes a pivot so that as the swing is made the body naturally moves round in a half circle, swinging clear of the ball, and finally the batsman finishes up facing almost round to the wicketkeeper — certainly well towards the leg side.

Should the ball rise shoulder high or more it will be virtually impossible to keep the ball on the ground. By the nature of the stroke the tendency is to hit the ball upwards anyway. Therefore, the batsman must exercise care and judgment to try to steer it clear of any leg-side fielders.

This type of bowler will usually have a man on the long-leg bound-

dary and possibly one or two close up. The latter are of no consequence with a hook shot — the man in the boundary is the danger.

It is quite possible so to control the hook that a degree of certainty in placing the ball can be achieved, and also one can go a long way towards avoiding a catch by keeping the power of the swing within bounds so that the ball will not carry on the full to the fieldsmen.

It is a satisfying shot which many great players such as Kippax and Sutcliffe regularly employed.

I am sure quite a number of batsmen would be more successful if they used it against the modern leg-side fields instead of trying to play every bumper defensively down at their feet, or ducking.

I should perhaps add that if the ball should bounce say head high, it is often best to go through with the body movement without making a shot at the ball. The difficulty of controlling the shot increases with its height, but keeping the body inside the line of flight is by far the safest way to avoid being struck.

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(to be continued)

SPORTING SAM by Reg Wootton



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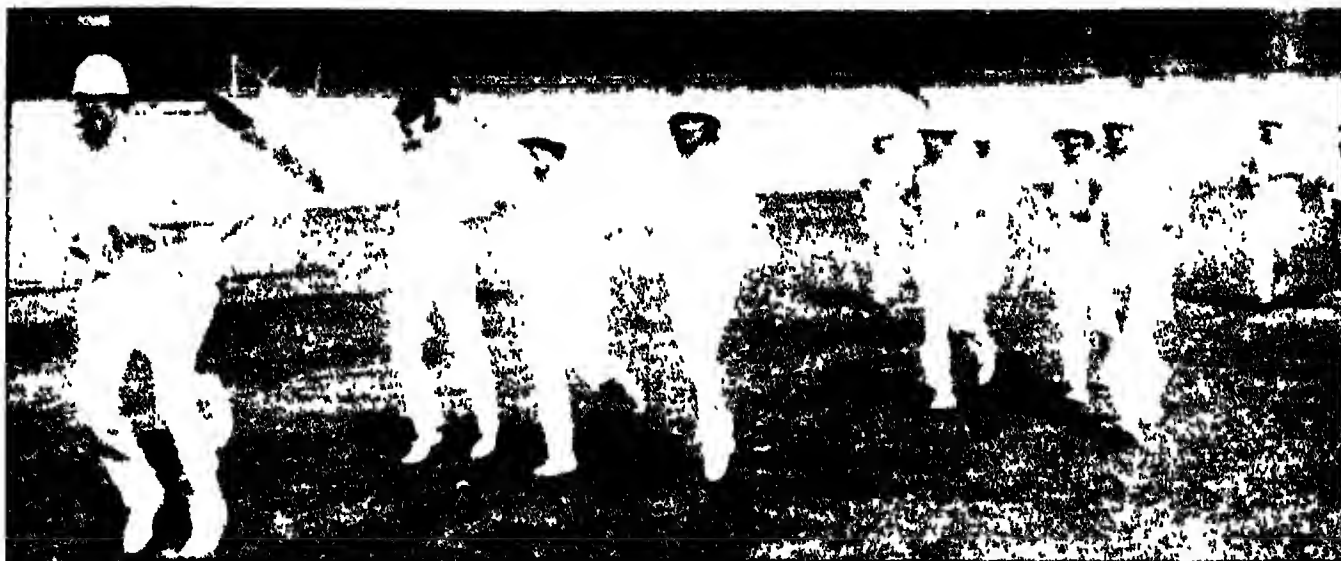
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Led by Tony Greig, members of the MCC team jog around the Wankhede Stadium, Bombay

Climbing out of a deep, dark pit

THE MCC's tour of India introduces an almost forgotten element into the lives of England cricketers. At last, after two years, they can start enjoying the game.

There are other good reasons why the next 12 weeks could see Tony Greig leading English cricket out of the deep, dark pit into which it has been clubbed by the fast bowlers of Australia and the West Indies.

But easily the main one is that our batsmen will not be under constant threat of being hit. England pulverised India by great attacking batting in 1974, and I believe that the sheer relief of playing bowlers who begin their run-ups within hailing distance might well produce the same response again.

If things turn out that way, and Greig avenges the 2-1 defeat sustained by Tony Lewis's side four years ago, England should go into the Centenary Test against Australia at Melbourne next March in better heart than at any time since Jeff Thomson teamed up with Dennis Lillee two years ago.

It would be wrong to give the impression, though, that England can beat India without putting up a fine all-round performance.

Even if India's achievement of losing only four home Tests to England out of the 23 played is misleading (until recent tours MCC have made no pretence of being at full strength) — they are a totally different proposition on their own soil.

In England, their weakness against fast and fast-medium bowling puts them at a hopeless disadvantage — "insuperable" would

be a more accurate adjective but for their lucky 1-0 win in 1971.

However, in India the quality of their spin bowling, and their batsmen's skill in playing spin, equips them well for chess-like battles on turning pitches.

India's spinners, Bedi, Chandrasekhar, Venkatraghavan, and possibly Prasanna — surprisingly left out against New Zealand — can

by JOHN THICKNESSE

route any side if they are allowed to hem the batsmen in with five men in the close-catching positions.

But whatever the technical problems, they should be comfortably outweighed for England's longest-serving warriors by their pleasure in playing in a non-violent series.

As a reminder to Greig that he has to brace up to keep the captaincy, Mike Brearley has been picked as vice-captain.

Brearley is without doubt the better field tactician, and has a sharper cricket brain — it was a fine performance leading Middlesex to the County Championship.

But Brearley, with only two Tests behind him, has yet to establish himself in the highest class of cricket, whereas Greig, with 47 Tests behind him, is a proven big-match player.

In addition, he has a four-year age advantage — 30 to 34 — and the type of debonair, friendly personality that helps men look kindly on his tactical shortcomings.

I regard Greig's success as fundamental. Next in importance I would put the establishment of a reliable opening pair, for which

Dennis Amiss, Brearley and Bob Woolmer are the candidates, and next after that the success of Graham Barlow.

Greig and Alan Knott, who have been ever-present since the bouncers started flying, have never betrayed signs of fear. But they and Derek Underwood, who has been subjected to bowling no tail-ender should ever have to face, can only be relieved to be back in a game in which brawn plays a bigger part than brawn.

As the only left-handed batsman in the party, apart from Chris Old, England will be looking to the flaxen-haired Barlow to break up the Indian spinners' rhythm.

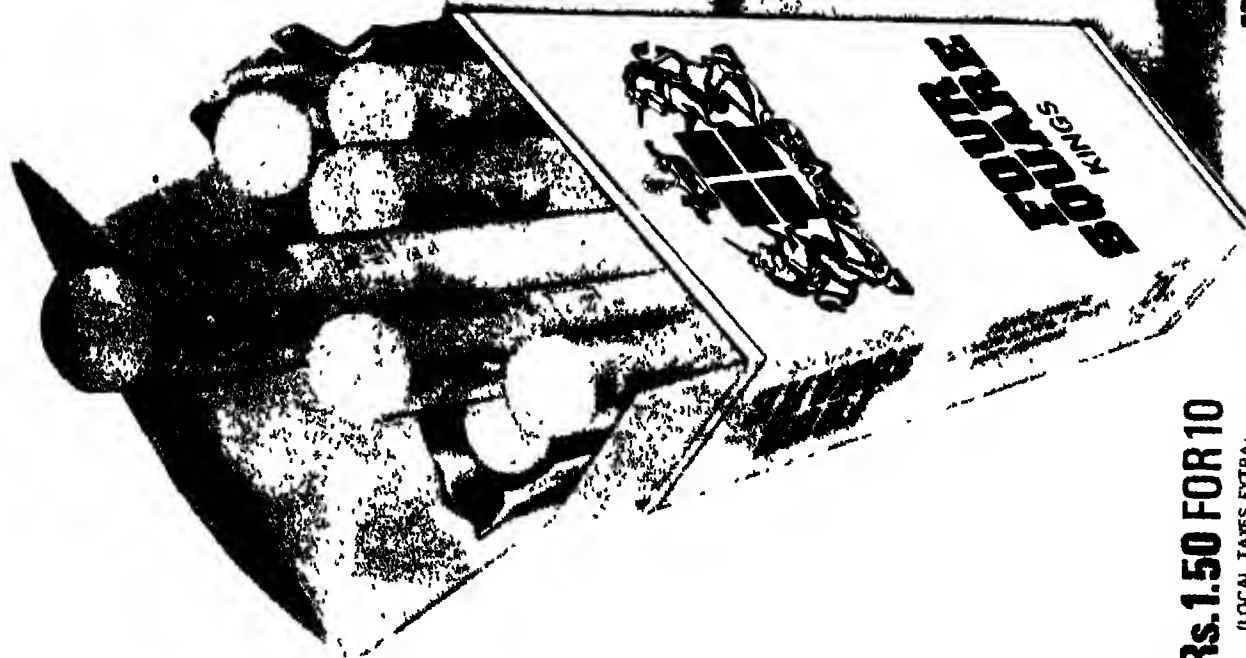
A good county record for Middlesex, against Bedi, who to him is an off-spinner, is a big factor in his favour.

Miller and Geoff Cope, the other off-spinner, may have a future. But for the moment, I see the three fastest bowlers, Bob Willis, John Lever and Chris Old, backed by the indefatigable Underwood, as the core of the attack.

For England to win, they have to make a steady stream of 100s and exploit India's inherent weakness against speed. The pitches may be slow. But it was no accident that Geoff Arnold (17) was England's leading batsman on the last tour, with Old in equal second place with 15.

To rub the lesson in, Andy Roberts took 32 wickets in 1975 when West Indies toured India two winters back. England have no Roberts. But a fit Willis is the next best thing.

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A captain's dilemma

Shed caution & attack, says Compton

ENGLAND's cricketers badly need to restore their lost cricket prestige

England's football team gave them a message recently (England lost 0-2 to Italy in the World Cup play off) which I hope captain Tony Greig and manager Ken Barrington will have picked up loud and clear

The message being that surely England must realise now the futility of our present attitude of caution towards sport. Now is the time, at all levels, to dispense with the attitude of "let's just get into a position whereby we cannot lose and then we can start thinking about whether or not we can win"

It is having a disastrous effect upon the character of England's players and their performance. So long as we keep thinking like this, we will never win

I have been one of Greig's severest critics since he took over the England captaincy from Mike Den-

ness. He has bitterly disappointed me with his unimaginative leadership. I really felt that Greig would bring a sense of adventure and flamboyancy to our cricket. That he would instil into our players the importance of aggression, nussing for so long.

But, sadly, the germ of caution appears to be still embedded in his system. This winter is his last chance to redeem himself. Other wise, England must look to somebody else to replace him against the Australians next summer.

Ken Barrington can play a major part in bringing England cricket back into a winning vein. He has vast experience of conditions out in India and in Pakistan. He made three tours there in 1955/61/64 with great success.

Ken is a winner all the way. He hates being second. "Champagne tastes so much nicer when you win and I'm fed up right now with nothing to celebrate," he says. "I

dearly want us to win and to win in the most decisive manner.

"We have two players in Derek Randall and Graham Barlow who love hitting the ball and there is no way I shall curb their natural way of playing."

"I am sure this will be Tony Greig's way of thinking and, if it works out this way, then the two of us will get on like a house on fire."

Throughout his career Barrington was thought of as a successful defensive batsman. This was true on so many occasions when he held the fort to save England.

But I saw him play one of the greatest innings ever seen in Melbourne during the 1965/66 tour when he thrashed the Australian bowlers for a century in 122 balls. In that superb innings he completed his half century with an enormous straight six and then did the same thing to reach his century.

—DINIS COMPTON

I'll go for a win, but . . .

Tony Greig tells Crawford White

TONY GREIG has only one intention: to beat India in every single Test match.

"My policy is quite simple," he said, "to go for a win from the start of every Test and if we get to the stage where we can't win then try to make sure the opposition don't take the match."

"It will not be a case of ensuring against defeat before going for victory," he added — an obvious reference to his much-criticised policy of containment against the West Indies last summer.

And Greig knows his head is on the block if he doesn't succeed on his first trip abroad as captain. The pressure is on for him after failing to marshal a single victory in his first eight Tests in office.

"Of course I know that," he retorted. "This is a job in which men always have their heads on that block."

"I've seen so many others in the same position. And from the start I've known the chop could come for me at any time."

"But don't imagine for one moment that I worry about it. If they decided to take the job away from me tomorrow I wouldn't give a damn. I certainly wouldn't weep."

"I have enjoyed every moment

of my England captaincy so far. I have had and still have something that is priceless."

"Provided I can be satisfied I am giving everything I have got to the job while I'm in it I'm happy."

Greig knows all about playing in India as he takes a 16-man squad that could be found wanting in several departments.

"But don't get the idea because I've been to India before I'll tell the lads how to play."

"I'll give information, advice and encouragement. But I believe in giving men their heads — they know how to play."

What are England's chances? "Better than for a long time," said Greig.

"But when I remind you that England have won only two Tests in India since the war and only four since Tests began there more than 40 years ago I don't kid anybody that it will be easy."

"On their own pitches and before their own fanatical crowds — they have 75,000 a day in Calcutta — India are as tough a proposition as any country."

"In India our lads will meet the



best spinners in the world. In Australia, where we play that Centenary Test, they will then take on the great men of speed. What they make of it all is up to them.

"All I'm sure about is that they will come back vastly wiser and better cricketers."

"At the moment we have not the winning pace of either Australia or the West Indies so the job is to make the best of what we have and play in as it comes."

"Always remember that the lads in the middle, especially the captain, want to win far more than the most avid supporter in the pavilion."

"But the folks back home could do with some winning news couldn't they? So between one thing and another you can bet we will be trying."

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From Down Under.

by RAY ROBINSON

HIGH-SPEED bowler Jeff Thomson down on his knees was a sight all England would have relished. It was not that he was begging mercy from a punishing batsman or praying for Divine aid in his destructive endeavours.

Thomson was delivering the first ball to South Australia at Brisbane when he fell. The spill skinned both knees, the left suffering the heavier graze.

Upright again, Jeff bowled nine overs in two stretches for 27 runs without the luck of a wicket while left-hand paceman Geoff Dymock (five for 24) and right-hand medium-pacer Phil Carlson (four for 42) used humid atmosphere to get S A out for 97.

A glossy ball and his unorthodox footwork, crossing the right boot behind the left, make Thomson liable to erratic bursts if the side-step happens to be awkward, upsetting the rhythm that enabled him to reach 99.6 miles an hour in photosonic tests at Perth last December.

After those nine wicketless overs at Brisbane Thomson's ghost-writer had him saying in his column, "Dammit, I can't take a trick at the moment. I'm looking forward to seeing a few good umpires with their index fingers pointing to the heavens."

After two wickets for no run in Thomson's first over of S A second innings the heavens poured down heavy rain, delaying play by three hours next day. At the suggestion of a Queensland selector, ex-captain Sam Trimble, curator John Maley used an industrial vacuum cleaner to suck up 168 gallons of rainwater from the wicket-covers and surrounds.

Sheets of water lay on parts of the outfield. Despite some difficulties with his run up Thomson troubled S A captain Gary Cosier and Ric Darling. One ball struck Cosier on a cheek.

Soon after tea Thomson brought an umpire's finger up by making Darling, 29, victim of the most painful leg before wicket dismissal for years. The ball struck the 19-year-old batsman's pad with such force that he had to be carried to the pavilion. An hour after the match his swollen knee was still packed in ice.

This time nine fiery overs brought Thomson five for 32. Out for 96, S A lost by an innings. What a contrast with last season when I. Chappell led them from bottom to top to win the Sheffield Shield.

In the same weekend former Pakistani batsman Mohammad Ilyas, 30, now a naturalised Aus-

Thommo gets going



Jeff Thomson

tralian living in Sydney with his English wife, was predicting that his country's batsmen would hook Thomson and Lillee out of contention as threats in the three Test series in December and January.

Among precedents in Pakistan's history of being able to deal with the world's fastest bowlers he recalls Hanif Mohammad's 337 in Barbados against Wesley Hall and Roy Gilchrist, a truly frightening pair.

Ilyas suggests that Thommo must still be having nightmares about his Melbourne Test debut four years ago when his 17 overs against Pakistani strokemakers cost 100 runs without a wicket. Ilyas entered every run in Pakistan's score book. He was drafted as scorer in that Test while out of action recovering from a severe blow on the head from a top-edged hook against a Queensland country bowler at Roma.

In loyalty to Pakistan's cause Ilyas overlooks — if he ever knew — that Thomson was troubled by a part-mended cracked bone in his left foot. Australia's selectors dropped him so hard that New South Wales did not pick him for 13 months.

Jeff's dramatic reappearance in February 1974 caused Queensland to lure him from Sydney. In Brisbane he began his haul of 33 wickets in 5½ Tests, dismaying England's batsmen on their last tour of Australia. Nobody else could make balls just short of a length rear so alarmingly. Nobody else tempted English umpires so often to call no-

balls against his front foot in Britain in 1975 (a neutral from Barbados, Tony Cosier, commented on their sharpness in this).

Only one Pakistani (Zaheer Abbas) was among Thommo's four wickets in five World Cup games in which he let loose 43 no balls. In four Tests 39 were called and on the whole tour 155 in 15 games — four no-balls for every wicket. Batsmen did not score off 110 of them. By contrast, Lillee was called 16 times in 14 matches.

Despite missing half an Adelaide Test through a paradoxical shoulder strain at tennis, Thomson has captured a close to five wickets a Test (78 in 16 Tests before the present series). Only great bowlers have averaged five victims a Test through their careers.

It is a better reward than his average rate of four a match when he recently reached 200 wickets in his 48th first-class game. Maybe Jeff bowls best to Test opponents, but remember many of his Tests have lasted five days while several of Queensland's four day games have been curtailed by thunder storms or cyclones.

After all, the 13½ stone speedman owed it to a vacuum cleaner that he was able to run up to grab his last five South Australian wickets.

Thomson, 26, is approaching the first 12 months of a world record 10 year contract for a cricketer, 633,000 dollars (69,63,000 rupees). The contract is with 41P Radio, Ipswich near Brisbane.

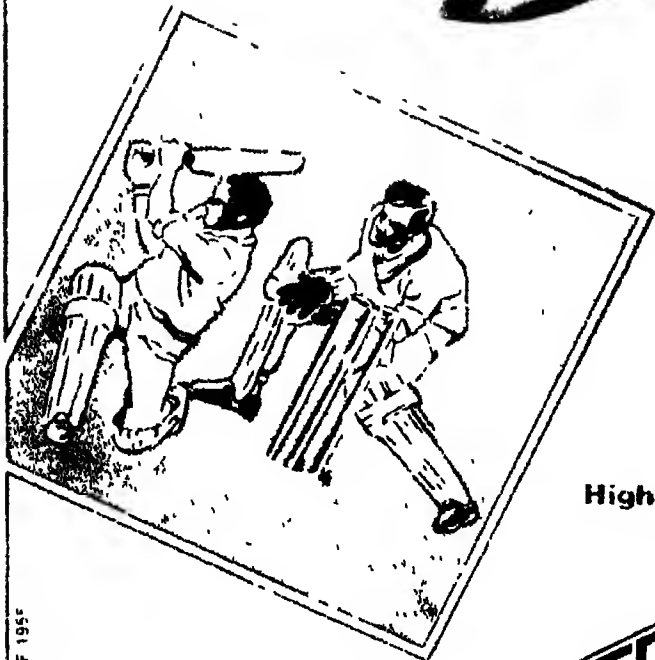
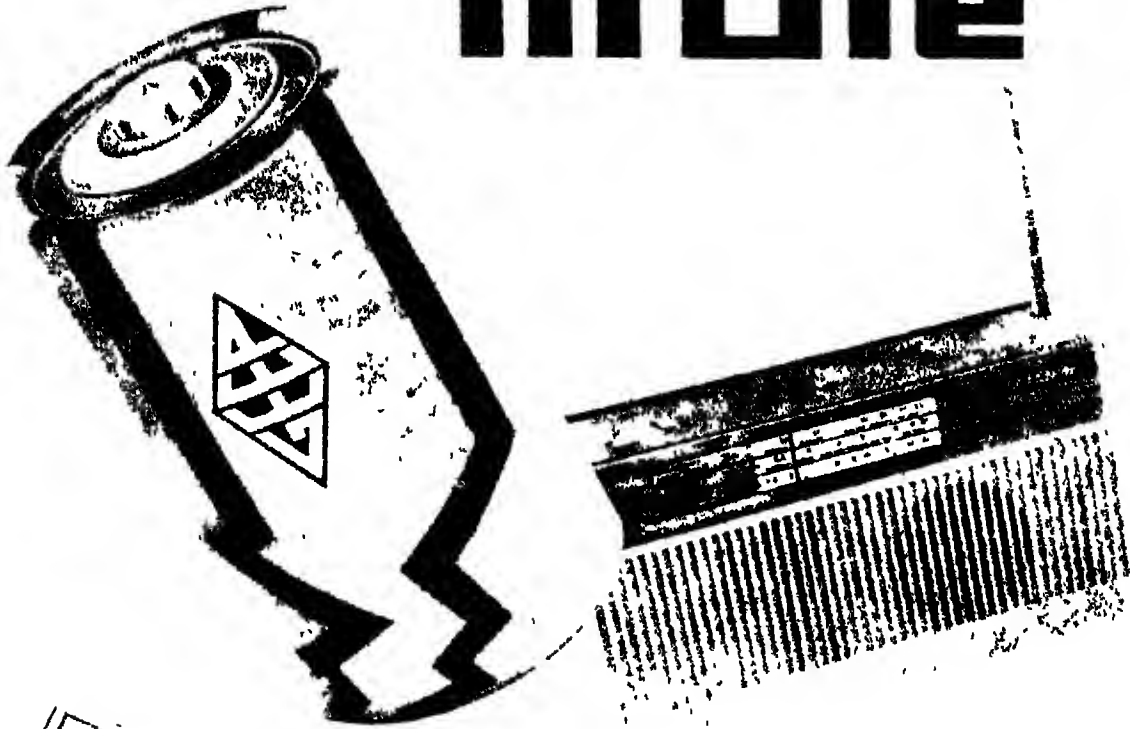
The incipient millionaire has landed a beauty as a bride, Brisbane model Cheryl Wilson, 22. They met at Brisbane Cricket Ground last February. Friends say they have since been constant companions, except when Cheryl was on a six week tour of Britain as Australia's Mannequin of 1976. Jeff sat with her when not fielding in Queensland's 100th-year match against Ian Chappell's Invitation XI.

Their wedding date, December 18, is the day the Pakistanis open their tour at Perth with a three day game against Western Australia. Six days later ex-bachelor Thomson will be due to play in the first Test in Adelaide.

The second Test begins on New Year's Day in Melbourne and the third on January 14 in Sydney before the Pakistanis head for their series in the West Indies.

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Basketbal

WESTERN RAILWAY, Bombay, holders of the R K Kacker memorial shield for the last three years were dethroned 86-88 by Eastern Command, Calcutta in the final of the 18th all India basketball tournament at the floodlit central sports stadium in Lucknow

The army-men thus avenged the 106-84 defeat they had suffered a couple of days earlier at the hands of the railmen during the league phase of the tournament

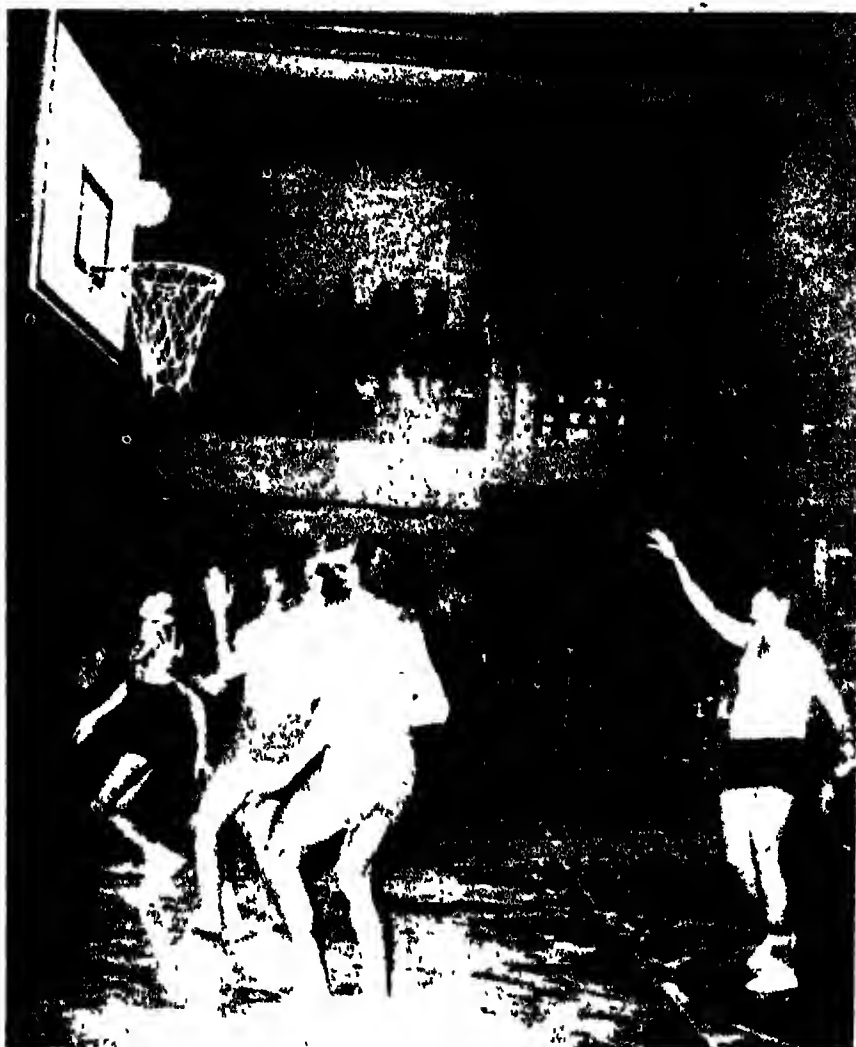
In the first semi-final, Eastern were given a tough fight by UP Police. The army team led 50-34 at the interval and finally won the match by 91 points to 72. Western Railway were given a fright by Central Reserve Police Force. Nevertheless in the other semi-final the winners could get only a four point lead at the half time, the score being 45-41. But they asserted themselves after the breather to score a fluent 95-73 victory

Western players could not do a single thing right in the final. Most of the time their long shooters were off the mark. On the other hand, Eastern played a disciplined and methodical game. In spite of trailing 32-34 at the end of the first half, Eastern players fought really hard. With better physical fitness and stamina, they kept up the pace of the game to take a comfortable lead.

For Eastern, Rameshwar (26), Subey Singh (21) and Radhey Shyam (16) were the main scorers while Paranjit Singh (22) and Javed Akhtar (19) did well for Western.

--SW Correspondent

Eastern Command win



All eyes on the ball as Javed Akhtar scores for Western in the final



Eastern Command, the winners of the R K Kacker Memorial Shield

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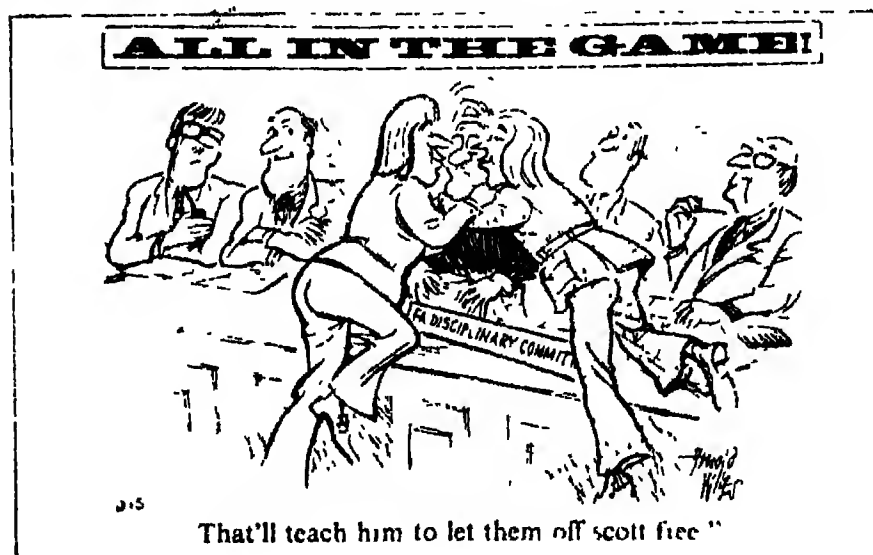
Though they were the holders,
B A V Inter College had to work
harder this time for their entry

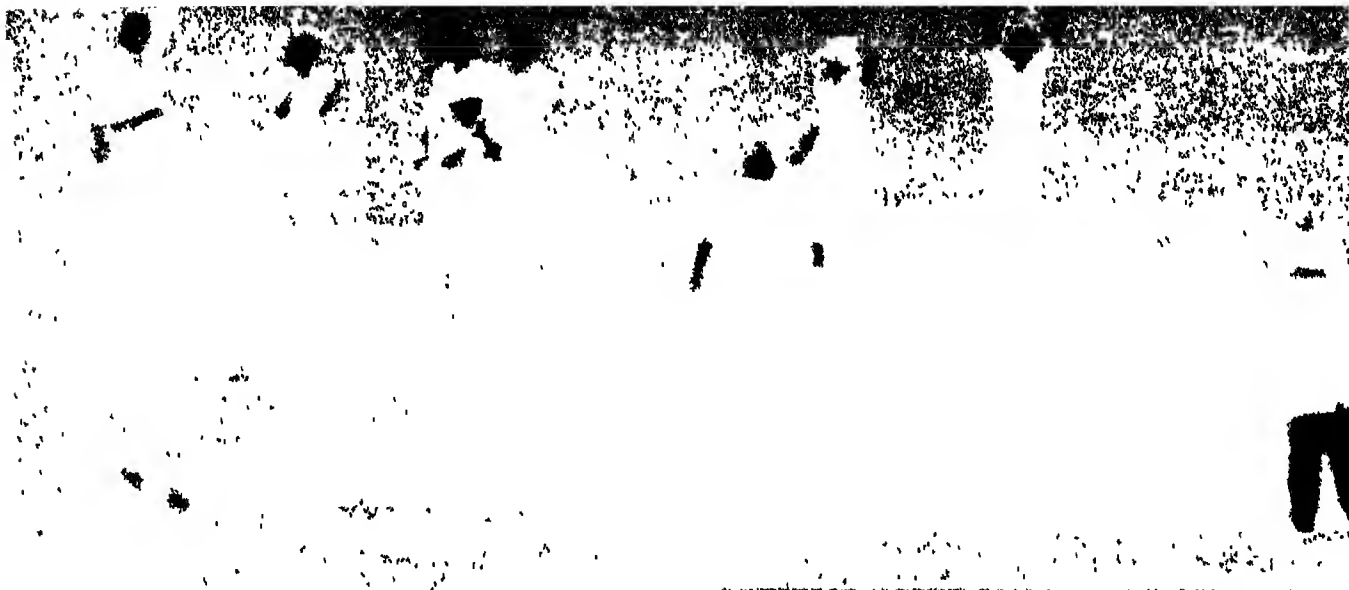
The same teams had met in the final last year. On that occasion Meerut had got the better of Khunti. But not this time. There was no doubting Khunti's superiority, and if anything they should

- SW Correspondent

Cricketers of the week—27

-K ISWARA DUTT



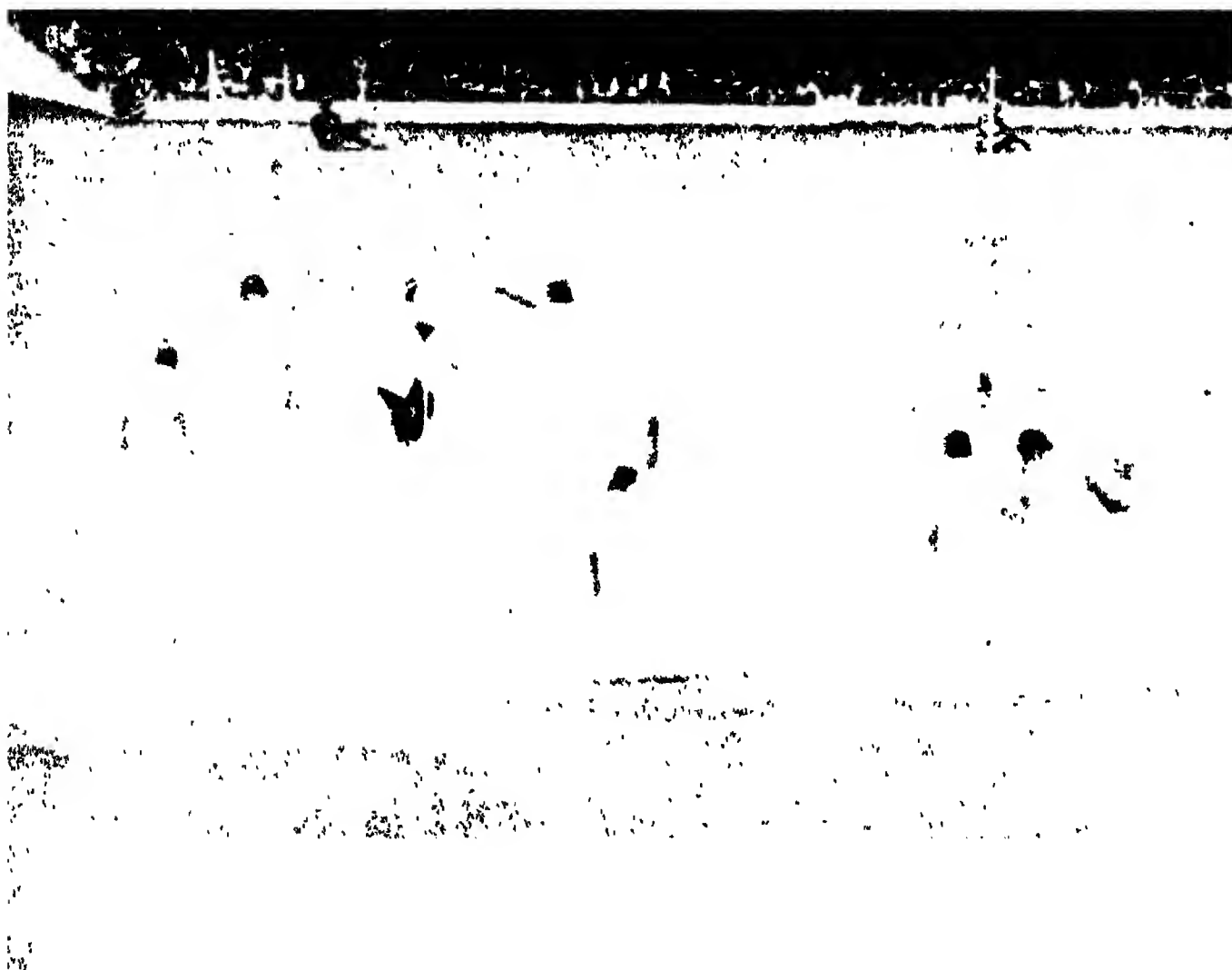


The controversial Turner dismissal . Venkat holds the ball aloft and up goes the umpire's finger to give Bedi another wicket Turner claims the ball went off his toe

THE KAI

Pics: RAJ GC

Mankad swoops on a chance offered by Geoff Howarth and that's another wicket for Venkat in New Zealand's second innings





Up goes the umpire's finger again and out goes John Parker
leg before to Bedi on the last day

Murray Parker falls leg before to Chandra and the Kiwis lose
their first second innings wicket



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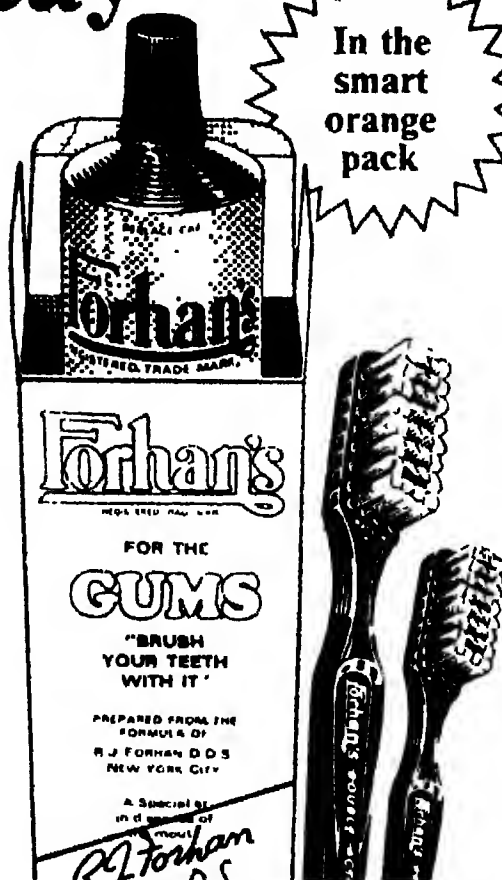
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KNOW YOUR STARS



Thomas Fernandes

IT'S true what my teammates have told you. After a bad game I cannot get it out of mind for a long time. I have no taste for anything. Not even food. I got to get the intense feeling of disappointment out of my system. And the best way I know is to subject my body and mind to a more strenuous session of training the next morning. I have always practised for an hour or two on my own in the mornings. Only the mornings after unsatisfactory performances I punish myself in training.

At Mafatlal Group I am fortunate. I continue to have some basic facilities that I enjoyed when I first started kicking a ball, a tennis ball around. What I mean is that in the compound of the Mafatlal Guest House, where some of us players live, the company has provided for a mini ground as well as an indoor gymnasium, which we could use when rains make it hard to practise outdoors. Of course in the gymnasium we can also indulge in other recreational activities and indoor games. But my interest is confined largely to football.

This attraction football has had for me from a very early age. It isn't something inherited. For I knew of no one in my family who was keen on football or for that matter in any sport. But with the boys of my village, Varca, near Margao, I played the game with greater enthusiasm than with un-

derstanding of what systematic play was.

Somehow every household chore that I had to do I related to football. My family used to supply milk to customers two miles away. I had to deliver it early in the morning. I didn't realise it then, but the four miles I ran, two to the customers' residences and two back from there, built up my endurance and gave me an easy, running style.

And I find these traits a big help in covering considerable spaces during a game. These days I ran those four miles not to build up my endurance but merely to gain the half an hour or so that I would have to spend more if I walked to and from the customers' residences. Today I am more deliberate in keeping physically fit.

My parents did not object to this exercise of mine. But they were not so happy about my playing football even after dusk or about going away a few miles with my friends to see matches in Margao and returning home late. On many such days I would have had to sleep out without food but for the kindness of my younger brother and sister. They sneaked food out of the kitchen for me.

My parents were more keen that I should devote more time to my studies. They felt that the future would be more assured that way. But I hardly gave the pursuit of a career much thought then. I am glad though that football has looked after me fairly well. Especially if I had failed at making a mark in the game I would be in a very difficult situation today. You see I had to leave school because of difficult circumstances at home. Somehow I believed that if I did something wholeheartedly I will have no cause for regrets.

Nine years ago, when I was but 17, I was chosen as a inside-forward for the Varca team in an inter-village tournament. We then played the three-back system, and I was the deeper-lying of the two inside-forwards. The next year I played for Varca Club in the Goa Second Division League. It was only when I joined Independent Club, a First Division side, in 1969, that I began playing as a half back, my present position. Independent, of course, adopted the more popular 4-2-4 system. The same year I also played for Vasco Club in tournaments in Kerala and I was a member of the team that lost to Border Security Force in the final of the Chakola Trophy at Trichur. Goa then were not a full fledged member of the All-India Football Federation.

I did not stay with either Independent or Vasco, leaving them for

Goa Shipyard, also a First Division side in 1971, and from there joining Salgaocar Club. It was with Salgaocar that I really arrived. Before losing to Mohun Bagan in the semi-final of the Rovers Cup I had apparently done enough to catch the eye of the AIFF selectors. Salgaocar's 4-0 victory over Mafatlal Group in the quarter final is a match I remember, and perhaps the selectors were also impressed by my display in that game as well in the one against Mohun Bagan. I was called for the camp in Bombay to pick the Indian team for the 1972 Pre-Olympic series in Rangoon. I did not make the team. I was named one of the stand-bys.

Then came the unfortunate setback to my career. Some Bonihay clubs were eager to take me on. But I had my own reservations about obtaining an inter-state transfer. But an influential Central Railway official pooh-poohed my fears and signed me on. Two matches for Central Railway and Central Bank's protest against the validity of my registration bore out my fears. Central Bank themselves were likewise guilty in fielding Theodoro D'Silva, their goal keeper, and both of us were barred for the rest of the season.

The suspension looked the end of the road for me. Fortunately, however, Mafatlal came to my rescue. By and large my three seasons with Mafatlal have been happy ones, the rare exceptions having been my own poor performances. The club were also considerate in letting me attend the camp to choose the Indian team for the Merdeka of 1973 without my having turned out for them in a single game.

Indeed I played for Mafatlal only in the Super (Harwood) League games against eventual winners Tata Sports Club and Mahindra. However, in the Rovers we put up a great show and were unlucky not to get through to the semi-finals. In the three-team quarter-final pool, we outplayed Mohun Bagan but could only draw and we failed to beat Orlay Mills by a margin wide enough to overtake Mohun Bagan on goal difference.

Though my showings in the Rovers Cup and other tournaments for Salgaocar and Mafatlal and for Maharashtra in the Nationals — I have not played for Goa — have gained me selection for camps in 1972, '73 and '74 I have won the India colours only once, in the 1973 Merdeka, in which India retrieved much of the ground lost in the 1971 Merdeka. I believe I'm not so old — I'm 26 — that I cannot win more international caps. That will give my game an edge the next few seasons.

Text: Sharp Shooter Pic: Rln

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Amateur Open Golf

THE Amateur Golf Championship of India is back at the Bombay Presidency Golf Club.

The best amateurs in the country will pit their swings against each other, curse silently as the ball vanishes in unpredictable directions and conceal carefully their sighs of relief as the opponent's ball performs even more erratically.

There will also be the spectacle of the ball perfectly struck, climbing high and fast, hovering momentarily in the sky against the background of the trees and hills of Chembur and descending softly right in the heart of the target, the shot that every golfer has achieved at least once, the shot that makes every golfer a hopeless addict to the game.

There will be the outer, perfect struck (in the opinion of the striker) which is a thing of beauty and the inner, perfect shot which is a thing of beauty and a thing of mystery, the shot that is the centre of the cup as divinely ordained.

The locker room will abound with tales of war and glasses of beer as the losers strive to convince themselves that had only Lady Luck not deserted them at the critical moment they must surely have ended the round as deserving winners.

The winners in the meantime will have silently departed for the practice tee to work on their game that ensures that they remain winners. In short there will be all the ingredients of sustained excitement and anticipation through which at the end of the week one man will emerge as the "Amateur Golf Champion of India."

The course at Chembur, though comparatively short at 6,220 yards for a championship course, will nevertheless provide a fine test of golf. The rough has been allowed to grow considerably and the golfers will have to hit the narrow fairways consistently off the tees if they hope to score well.

The championship this year has attracted a large field, including a team of ten from Kenya and a contingent from Sri Lanka. The Kenyan team is basically an unknown entity but if handicaps are anything to go by some of them seem capable of pulling off a few surprises.

Sri Lanka's team is headed by Pin Fernando, who has taken this title twice in the past and notwithstanding the onslaught of "anno domini" turns in consistently good performances in this event. Soli, Captain who pounds the ball colossal distances with a three-quarter swing is another member of the

Allan's the best bet

team who is capable of causing an upset.

We come now to our own players and a formidable lot they are. Spearheading the challenge from the east will be defending champion Allan Singh. Allan, the first 'new' face to figure in an all-India final since Vikramjit Singh smashed his way through the 'rank and file' about eight years ago, has had a tremendous year adding the Sri Lanka championship to his Indian crown and finishing as the leading amateur in the Indian Open.

The course at Chembur will suit his style of play and if he is in form it could prove very difficult to dislodge him from his throne. Close on Allan's heels will be



Allan Singh

"Ruddy" Smith. Smith undoubtedly has the ability to win this championship although in his very creditable career to date he has not yet managed to reach the final. Either for my his two tour invincibly in coming up against people playing above themselves. Reports have it that he is hitting one ball superbly at the moment and his recent performance in the Wells Masters at Delhi bears this out. If he recovers his putting touch he must be a very real threat. Gangesh Khaitan, Manu Singh and Bobby Khanna are others from the east who bear careful watching.

Golf in the north of India and "Billoo" Sethi are synonymous. This giant of a man cannot in comparably the finest striker of a golf ball in this country. To watch Billoo hit a long iron is a spectacle well worth travelling for. A big

time winner of the championship Billoo has been let down in recent years by an errant putter. Notwithstanding this he must remain a strong favourite in any event.

Advant Singh, the swashbuckler from Andhra and a multiple winner of the event has also entered and must be ranked as one of the chief contenders for the title. Viki, the possessor of a beautifully rhythmic swing adds excitement to any golf movement with an ability to produce the most spectacular recovery shots allied to his extremely fine game.

From the north also comes Sunil Singh who is nearly always there but never quite and Achal Kulkarni who has a really deadly line of putt which to date has not yielded to the results that he would expect from it.

Of the golfers from the south interest will be centred mostly on the performance of Vivek Bhaykar and the Thomas brothers, Anand and Dilip both of whom have that essential prerequisite for championship golf these days, length of the tee. At present Anand is by far the more polished golfer but Dilip is the more up his side. Of the current form Bombay the player most likely to emerge as champion is of course Rukman Pitamber Patil who has done so much for golf in this country. He has a magnificent record during a career in which he has borne the Indian Open, annexed every major title in this part of the world more than once. He has been unable to play as much as he would have liked this season but that is a pity. Nevertheless, a consistent and continuous golf may well be a better bet than one and he will be looking for a third victory in the championship.

Of the younger golfers Ratan Chaudhary stands out to have a lot of respect accorded to him. He has improved beyond measure over the last 18 months or so and is now a master of the ball with an increasingly consistent performance. To his credit Chembur is his home course and he will pose a danger threat to many more than one player.

Two others who attract attention where they play for the prodigious almost abnormal distances that they belt the ball off the tee are Andy Sharma and Sharad Diverba. Use of a little more brain power in the way of course management could well see these two produce performances in keeping with their technical ability. Generally, they are not well served when they are not well served.

—SIRJAN K. SINGH

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by JIMMY MEHTA

WE who love this game with a passion bordering on madness have endured it under conditions which have to be seen to be believed — stifling unventilated rooms and dustchoked shamianas, players packed like sardines in a can, rickety chairs and tables threatening to collapse, plastic squares with slits masquerading as duplicate boards, the flaps worn off, dealer and vulnerability conditions indicated in a manner specially designed to confuse, and playing cards like bits of card board

At last we have a promise of something better in the offing. The 18th National Bridge Championships, 5th to 19th December, is being hosted by Bombay and the organisers are bursting with enthusiasm.

With as many as fifteen hundred participants expected and our ever limited resources, the shamianas will still be there but we are assured of adequate arrangements to cool them and control the dust.

There are to be special made-to-order bridge tables and comfortable arm chairs, beautiful aluminium boards and the type of cards one likes to handle.

For spectators, there will as usual be no entrance fee. In addition to viewing galleries around the top few tables, two matches a day will be displayed on a Vu-Graph screen, enabling several hundreds of viewers to follow the play, bid by bid and card by card with the aid of an expert commentator, while the result and bidding in the other room will be simultaneously displayed. I am sure there will be no dearth of brilliance to delight the spectators. The blunders of our leading players should afford them an even keener source of pleasure if only as a morale booster. For the progressive events match-pointing will be computerised.

What a transformation this is going to be from the First Bridge Nationals held in Bombay seventeen years ago? Then it was limited to a handful of selected State Teams and a mere hundred participants. This year the number of teams might well hit the two hundred mark. Over a hundred women players are threatening to participate even in the open events in addition to the mixed event, the women's pairs and women's teams.

Women players in the open event.

I am quaking in my shoes. A month ago I came across one of them who looked as if she belonged in a beauty contest — you know the dumb blonde type. Sitting on my right, she merely underled the A K of diamonds from A K x x x — in a suit contract if you please! I held Q x x facing 10 x x in dummy. I ducked without a thought and lost three tricks in the suit — for you can guess how many match points I am praying nothing like that ever happens to me if I ever make a Vu-Graph session against one of these fiends. The late Adam Meredith had trouble with his teammates in the post mortem after a match, explaining a deal he played against a dear old lady in her late sixties. Knitting away furiously, she sprang a Meredith on him — psyched a "1 spade" opening on 10 x x of spades and a count of about four. Do you blame him for missing the lay down spade game?

My own view, that women players should be barred from Open events, is not likely to prevail. They are here in their hordes and here for keeps. So watch our men! At least they will lend a touch of glamour to the gloriously gruelling days ahead.

I am just itching to get on with the Nationals aren't you? Well here's wishing you luck — you're going to need it particularly if you run into a little old lady or a dumb blonde adversary.

Here is a hand sent to me by Milanmohan Roy of West Bengal — a hand which swung sixteen IMP's against his team (Dasgupta's) confronting Bhowanipur Card Club, in the semifinal round of the West Bengal State Championship.

1976
9 x x x
J
A 10 9 x
N
S
A x
A 10 x x
A Q x x
K 8 x

The positions have been switched round by me for the reader's convenience.

Bidding

S	W	N	E
1 NT	Pass	2 C	2 S
3 H	Pass	4 H	—

Opening lead S 10

Roy's partner could not find the winning play to land the optimistic heart game. The other room rested in a heart partial making nine tricks.

There is no surefire line but which line do you think is best? Until next week.

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instant
throat
comfort

V

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C

A

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COUGH
DROPS

AJIT WADEKAR ON INDIA'S TEST PROSPECTS

We have begun well against New Zealand, but how will we fare against England? On the eve of the First Test in Delhi, India's former cricket captain assesses our chances.



WORLD IN COLOUR

An American endeavours to find new methods to preserve the mummy of Pharaoh Ramses II; the story of the Great White Whale.

The Illustrated Weekly of India

December 12, 1976

DELHI GETS A FACE-LIFT

Over 200,000 citizens have been moved from slums and resettled. Prices of commodities like milk, vegetables and kerosene have come down. Parks, trees and flowering shrubs have sprung up everywhere to give a new beauty to the city. The Jama Masjid area has been cleaned up. These are only a few of the projects completed with startling speed by Delhi's Programme Implementation Committee under the leadership and inspiration of Sanjay Gandhi.

ANDRE MALRAUX

Khushwant Singh's interview with the French author, leftist intellectual, art historian and man of action.

THE SABRI BROTHERS

The qawwali, a popular form of musical entertainment in Muslim countries, is gaining popularity in the West. The credit for this goes to these brothers from Pakistan. By A B Rajput

FLIGHT 303

Story by Suresh Chopra

THE BERRY SARBADHIKARY COLUMN

What fun it was

THANKS to SPORTSWEEK and its most enterprising Managing Editor Khalid Ansari with able aides like Sharad Kotnis and others, recently Bombayites had a chance of looking at many Indian heroes of the past who had dominated the Quadrangular, the Pentangular and the Indian Test scenes of the now dim past, on the Bombay Gymkhana ground of hoary tradition. Actually, the Sportsweek XI v Bombay Gymkhana XI game was part of Bombay Gymkhana centenary programme, and such a game was well thought of. Incidentally, in 1946, at the Surrey Oval, I saw a similar match, in which oldstagers such as Douglas Jardine, Percy Fender, perhaps Andy Sandham and Frank Woolley and others, donned flannels. And what fun it was!

It was no less so at the Gymkhana ground the other Sunday. Taking in view the age of the oldstagers, 60 or thereabouts, it was a limited 30 over game. And yet during the lunch interval, Lala Amarnath and Shute Banerjee came to the radio commentary booth (house only) and complained to me that it should have been at least a 35 over match. Hof fit some of these oldstagers are even at an advanced age, specially C. S. Nayudu.

Incidentally, I was on the mike, practically from my sick bed, after a lapse of three years, as youthful Khalid Ansari's request to me is like a "command." It was just as well that I made it, for I thoroughly enjoyed that Sunday's proceedings. I have seen most of these old heroes in their hey-day both at home and abroad, and knew practically all about them. I had an able ally in Fredun de Vitre, as also national Test selector, Raj Singh.

And yet, I dropped a brick when I confused, as a bowler, Shute Banerjee with B. B. Nimbalkar, both balding yes, but the "action" was not the same, which I observed. Suddenly, there was a thud on my back, and it was Shute's. The lapse was inexcusable, for about a quarter of a century, I have kept wicket to Shute, at his fastest, batted against him, and we have opened the innings many a time, in first-class matches, often with

success. Certainly, I deserved Shute's slap on the back!

It was a pity Vijay Merchant, India's greatest all-wicket batsman ever, could not captain Bombay Gymkhana XI on doctor's orders, but the elegant left-hander, Khandu Rangnekar, led the side. Sportsweek XI, of course, was captained by Lala Amarnath, aggressive, almost to a fault. But all this is like shooting away at a dead tiger, for the details have been known for some time. Suffice it to say, that when the game was definitely going to slip out of Sportsweek XI's hands, Amarnath still went to the aggressive. Shute Banerjee clean bowled B. B. Nimbalkar "with his head," B. B. being attacking, and the top corner of the game limping, not so old, checked the flow of runs and the Lala gave Sportsweek XI a narrow victory. Long live "Good old days!"

It was the first time in my life that with a Test match on in town, for reasons beyond my control, I was unable to attend it. This was tragic, indeed. So, no comments on the rival teams' play, although I saw bits and pieces on television.

Umpiring decisions, well, well! These have been disputed ever since the game was first played—and the more so since the emergence of a large and very competitive press who, to quote former Australian Prime Minister, Sir Robert Menzies, are a "numerous brood," some thinking Tests as a sort of "warfare," and always thinking in terms of "headlines." Sir Robert added that the latter

did not know what harm they were doing to the noble game of cricket.

This is far from a dig at anybody, far less the New Zealand captain Glenn Turner who, judging by his press statements, I thought, was admirably restrained, though two decisions on the last afternoon went against his side.

If it is true, that a NZ batsman "shouldered arms," how a "bat and pad" catch could have resulted is baffling, to say the least. What was even more incomprehensible was why a fieldsman on the run on the boundary line which disposed of Collinge should have been asked whether he took the catch inside the boundary line or not. Glenn Turner said he had never seen an incident like that — nor have I in my long experience.

I have though seen great umpires like even Frank Chester, in like circumstances, rushing to the spot to verify the fact for himself before giving his award. The slightest doubt, and the batsman was in — "Elementary, my dear Watson," in the well laid code of umpiring.

I had met Frank Chester many a time during my various visits to England. He was a first-class cricketer, but with one arm chopped off, he reverted to umpiring; cricket's loss was umpiring's gain. Once during a train journey from Manchester to London (anything above three hours is "long" in the UK), I asked Chester that his dictum of not giving a batsman out lbw if he played forward was being widely abused, adding that there were many batsmen who went right back and the forward Chester's reply was that what he had meant was a batsman playing full forward, with his back foot just inside the popping crease.

Chester was great, very great indeed. But he was also a "showman" which some of the top Australian and West Indian cricketers did not like. In Dr. W. G. Grace's time such "showmanship" would have perhaps drawn the good doctor's caustic "Frank, they have come to see me bat, not your umpiring."



C. S. Nayudu (left), J. Naorem, SW Managing Editor Khalid Ansari, Shute Banerjee and Lala Amarnath snapped on the eve of the Bombay Gymkhana centenary match.

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A GAME from the Skopje Tournament World Champion Karpov puts up a tortuous, but solid defence and finally emerges a Pawn up with a winning end game

RUY LOPEZ

White Karpov
Black Nichevsky

1 PK4, PK4 2 NKB3, NKB3 3 BN5 PQP3 4 BR4, NB3 5 00, NxP (a) 6 PQ4, BK 2 (b) 7 RK1, PB4 8 P05 NR4 9 N4P 10 PQB3, BR4 (c) 11 RK2, PQ3 12 NB3, NB5 13 B42, KK1 14 P0N3, NK4 15 N4 16 N4 17 N4 18 N4 19 E4N, BQ2 (1) 20 NB3, BN4 21 PB4, BQ2 22 KB1, NB2 23 NB3, NN5 24 RQ2 (h) RK2 25 PKR3, NB3 26 BB2, BN5 27 RQ3 (i) NK5? (j) 28 NxN, P4N? (k) 29 PK3 (l) QRK1 30

by

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IN 1976 a 17-year-old Scottish schoolboy, Ian Black, shot into the forefront of world swimmers and justly earned the title of "Britain's Golden Boy"

His magnificent swimming in freestyle and butterfly events brought him nine gold medals — one in the Empire Games at Cardiff, three in the European Championships at Budapest, and five in the National Championships

From his junior days the boy from Aberdeen had revealed astonishing natural ability in the water and quickly mastered all the main strokes. He began to concentrate on the freestyle and butterfly, but the time came when he was able to prove that he was more than a "two stroke" specialist

On June 6, 1959, Ian Black announced his intention to make an attempt on the world individual relay records for 400 metres and 440 yards, the first British swim-

NQ4, BQ7 31 RK2, BB6 32 RQ1, PK6 33 BB5! (m) BxN 34 BxB RxB 35 RxB, (n) RB2 36 PB3, R(2)K2 37 RQB2! (o) PK7ch 38 KK1, KB2 39 R(4)Q2 RK6 40 RxB, RQ6? (p) 41 RxB, KxB 42 RQ2, RB6? (q) 43 RK2ch, Black resigns

- (a) The Open Tarrasch Defence
- (b) Timeworn is 6 PQN4 7 BN3 PQ4 8 PxP, BK3
- (c) From now onwards Black keeps the initiative for several moves
- (d) If 15 BxN, PxP 16 RxB BB4 with an excellent game for the Pawn
- (e) And here 17 PKR3? NxP 18 PxN, PB5 19 PxP, RxB would give Black a strong attack
- (f) Unfortunately the Black KN is pinned
- (g) To increase the scope for the other Bishop On 20 PB5 21 BB2 NxKBP? (or 21 BB4 22 QNQ2, NxKBP? 23 BxB and Black's discovered check is futile) 22 RxB, RK7 is retuted by 23 NQ4
- (h) The only move He has to concede the K file
- (i) Another compulsory awkward

The golden boy

mer ever to tackle this supreme test of all-round ability

It meant swimming two lengths of the bath at butterfly, two at back stroke, two at breast stroke and the final 110 yards at freestyle

The young Scot made his attempt at Cardiff, where the Empire Games had been held the previous year, and a crowd of 2,000 spectators were there to cheer him on

It was a strange sight as he doffed his tartan robe and stepped to the starting block — for he was a lone figure. This was to be a race against himself, for there was no opposition. Ian Black against the stopwatch

On that warm June evening, with the sun glinting through the glass walls of the Empire Pool, history was made. The tanned Scottish schoolboy, icy calm, superbly fit covered the two butterfly lengths in 70.5 seconds. Then the back stroke (perhaps his weakest stroke) in 84 seconds

He turned into the breast stroke leg and returned a time of 88.3 seconds. Now the spectators began to give voice as he thrashed down the pool on the freestyle leg

At last it was all over. — 110 yards in 66 seconds. Ian Black had covered 400 metres and 440 yards in 5 minutes 8.8 seconds, bettering the previous record by more than four seconds

ward move. The Rook describes a rectangle

- (j) Better to strengthen the file by 27 QRK1 first
- (k) This Pawn is now encircled. Better was 28 RxB
- (l) Another pin!
- (m) And now White is on top. 33 PxP is answered by 34. BK6ch
- (n) A pin in the K file for the third time!
- (o) The Black KP is doomed
- (p) Allows exchange of both the Rooks

1ND GAME

Last week's ending by S N Ravi Shankar

White Kf1, Kg3, Nh2, P's a6, c4, f3

Black Kh1, Qf8, P's a7, c5

White to play and win

1 Ng4 (if 1 Rh3, Qh6 or h8!) Qxf3ch! 2 Nf2ch!, Kh2 3 Rg3! (if 3 Rg7, Qe2ch! 4 Kxe2 stalemate) Qc6 (or 3 Qa8 4 Rg6) 4 Rg8!, Q13 (if 4 Qg6) 5 Ng4ch, Kh1 6 Rh8 mate! 5 Rh8ch, Kg3 6 Rh3ch, Kf4 7 Rxf3ch, Kxf3 8 Nd1 wins

How much do you know?

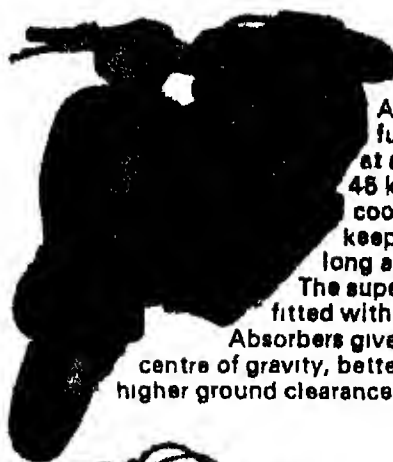
by MOSFY MISTRY

- 1 Can the manager of a weight-lifting team have a slogan drink Coca Cola for health displayed on his tee shirt?
- 2 What should be the diameter of the ball in badminton?
- 3 What should be the circumference and weight of a football?
- 4 How many judges are there for gymnastics?
- 5 The winner of the 100 m run is clocked at 10.27 secs, 10.28 secs and 10.29 secs by the three timekeepers. What is the official timing?
- 6 At the turn, and upon finishing a swimming race, must the touch be made with both hands simultaneously in the breast stroke?
- 7 Can a boxing judge impose a penalty on the offender when he observes a foul unnoticed by the referee?

ANSWERS

- 1 No 2 Not less than 2 ins and not more than 2 1/8 ins 3 The circumference of the ball shall not be more than 0.71 m and not less than 0.68 m Its weight shall not be more than 453 grammes and not less than 396 grammes 4 Four 5 10.28 secs, as the middle time is taken when the three watches disagree 6 Yes 7 Yes

SCOOT...



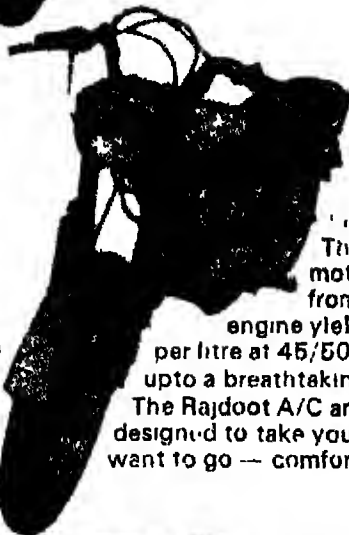
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Kim Warwick (left) — first Grand Prix win and Sashi Menon the surprise runner-up

The Indian Open

by SUBROTO SIRKAR

The jinxed Grand Prix of '76

"I COULD do better here" Sashi Menon had remarked when complimented for reaching the quarter-finals of the Australian Indoor in Sydney. And do better he did. The 24-year-old University of Southern California graduate from Pune became the first unseeded player to reach the singles final of the Indian Open tennis championship in Bangalore, but then he fell an easy victim to the super class of Australian Kim Warwick — four months' Menon's senior — who required less than an hour to claim his maiden Grand Prix title with a 6-1, 6-1 victory.

The one-sided match provided a lacklustre climax to a tournament which often appeared jinxed. But at least it was an ending; something which had seemed doubtful when unseasonal rain caused the abandonment of two full days tennis. Eventually the meet was extended by a day, and the weather remained sunny — much to the re-

lief of the organisers, who put in a lot of hard work.

The reddish brown clay sand courts at the KSLFA's Cubbon Park stadium were initially quite fast, though a bit slippery. When rain water, accumulating on the polythene covers, made the courts damp in patches — thus rendering the usually high bounce uneven — it was decided to let the surface get a uniform "drenching". Play could only be resumed after a 70 hour stoppage, with gas burners being used to dry the courts.

It was on the still somewhat slippery east court that Anand Amritraj who had played well in beating the seventh seeded Paul Kronx before the rain break, lost his temper and his second round contest versus the unpretentious Aussie Alvin Gardiner.

Booted by the crowd at the end of the match the eldest Amritraj followed up by having an unsavoury altercation with referee

Smruti Mashruwala. If the player's conduct was unbecoming for a senior Davis Cup representative, there were many other instances where competitors violated the code of conduct framed by the Association of Tennis Professionals.

The best tennis of the tournament came in the third set of the Hassan Rahim Menon semifinal. The Pakistani was serving for the match at 5-1 but Menon picked the right time to attack and passed Rahim successively to break back and eventually take the set at 9-7.

Possibly Rahim's tough 71 minute first set against the classy Bob Carmichael earlier on that Sunday morning had sapped his energy. A Rahim Warwick meet would like to have been even more exciting. As a whole, however, the tournament between Warwick and Menon at the Philadelphia airport was considered about the best in the tournament. The advantages of the American sport

were gradually blunted by Warwick's courtcraft

The Sydney-sider who had been a semifinalist at Calcutta last year and beaten Vijay Amritraj straight in the first round at Forest Hills, displayed a touch of class which set him apart from any other player in this tournament. In the final against Menon — who hit a few down the line backhand winners but never got going as he did in beating Gardiner and Rahim the previous day — Warwick always seemed to have plenty of time to play his strokes and even when he served three "doubles" in his first service game of the second set Menon was unable to break the Australian's serve. The casual looking Aussie picked up 8,750 dollars as the winner's prize.

A fortnight before the meet be-



Dick Crealy toppled favourite

gon the entry situation became clearer, no Mark Edmondson, no Ross Case, no Alex Metreveli. Then Vijay Amritraj, who had ruptured a back muscle playing in a small tournament in the United States reported from Madras — where he was in hospital — that he would be unable to play. And Geoff Masters, seeded second on the basis of the ATP computer reading, just did not turn up.

The final drawcard showed just one man from the ATP's top 50 — Dick Crealy at No. 40 — and only six from the first hundred. At Calcutta a year ago there had been eight from the first 50 and 15 in the hundred. Crealy was ousted in the second round by Carmichael — at 36 years and four months the oldest player in the tournament — and third seeded Ruffels, tired after his long journey from Manila via Hong Kong and Bombay, revived after suffering a decisive break against the left handed Californian George Hardie. Only Warwick, Rahim and Cahill among the

seeds made the quarter

It was a not particularly enjoyable tournament, remarkable for its minor peculiarities. Referee Mashruwala was fortunate he did not have to be called on to the court while he did the radio commentary, Bostonian Doug Crawford ranked 42 in the United States last year, lost in the last round of the qualifying and then as a lucky loser beat Jasjit Singh — the very man who had defeated him in the preliminary round — and went on to reach the last four, and India's Davis Cup squad member Jaikumar Royappa played and lost in the qualifying while "sparing partners" Ashok Amritraj and Ramesh Krishnan got into the tournament as wild card choices.

How the wild card reservation for Ramanathan Krishnan was



Haroon Rahim... a case of sapped energy



Ashok Amritraj... one of the wild cards

transferred to his son was a point of mystery. Still, Ramesh as the nation's top junior was entitled to a preference of sorts but Ashok Amritraj's record could hardly have

Rahim turned up in search of a wild card entry — "Bangalore reminds me of Lahore, my home town", he mused — and found himself playing Jaideep Mukerjee in the last round of the qualifying.

When he realised he would get in without exerting himself, as a lucky loser following Vijay Amritraj's withdrawal, Rahim retired and the elder Mukerjee was through to the tournament proper.

The two then drew each other in the first round where Rahim despatched Mukerjee to less tiring work in the press box.

A touch of colour was added to



Anand Amritraj loss of temper and match

the meet by the participation of the look alike Gulliksen twins from Wisconsin, Tim the right hander and Tom the southpaw. Aussie John Bartlett became the only foreigner to play in all four Grand Prix meets in India, the players felt that the Matchless balls though decidedly of a good quality should have been of a "heavy duty".

The doubles player over those abbreviated prossets in the early stages, again saw the triumph of a right left combination. Carmichael and Ruffels won but the young Indian pair of Chinadip Mukerjee and Bhanu Prathy — who now styles himself Nunna — deserve credit for making the final round.

That then was Bangalore '76. Next year the US-based Colgate-Palmolive Company takes over from Commercial Union Assurance Company as circuit sponsors of the Grand Prix, and the Indian Open for 1977 has been allocated to Bombay. But at the back of one's mind is the nagging query, is it all worth the while?

Sashi — heading for the top

by JAIDIP MUKERJEA

NOW that the fourth Indian Open Grand Prix tennis championships is over let us look back and analyse the performance of the Indian players. It is a pity that Vijay Amritraj could not play but Sashi Menon did more than make up for his absence.

I have seen Sashi play since his junior days, and was surprisingly pleased to see him play such consistent tennis right through the week. Sashi is known to be a great killer — he can beat the best on his day, but this is the first time he has put his game together and won so many important matches in a single tournament.

I think the main improvement in Sashi's game is his consistency which was the main factor for his success at Bangalore. I am sure he will improve further especially having gained more confidence at Bangalore.

The second person who comes to my mind is Ashok Amritraj. He did very well to get to the quarter-finals. In fact with a little bit of luck he could have made it to the semi-final.

I think playing with elder brother Vijay in team tennis in the US has made his game very sharp. He has improved allround, but still has to improve his backhand. He is the quickest mover around the net in the country now. Another quality which he has is the ability to fight back which he did so well against Australian Leitcher.

The next is Ramesh Krishnan, son of the great Ramanathan Krishnan. Ramesh has improved by leaps and bounds since last year. He has won three tournaments in India this year before coming to the Grand Prix. Being his first big tournament, Ramesh was understandably nervous against Whittinger of the US, and lost in three sets. In fact he had a chance of winning the match.

The only fault in his game is his serve which I am sure will improve as he grows taller. Ramesh is still only 17 and a half years old. In the years to come he will be one of India's leading players.

Anand Amritraj did very well to defeat sixth seeded Paul Kronk in the first round, but was upset by the damp court and the crowd to lose to Australian Gardiner in the subsequent round.

Anand's forte is his net game and backhand. He is considered as one of the better doubles players in the world, but it mystifies me as to why he does not do better in the singles.



Connors' off-court

ACCORDING to TIME magazine, tennis ace Jimmy Connors who has been playing doubles off-court with former Miss World Marjorie Wallace "leans toward ladies with very smooth, very soft skin whom I can nestle up to and cuddle with."

"Jimbo" Connors was replying to a question in "What Makes A Woman G.I.B. (good in bed)," the title of a forthcoming book.



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BUZZING AROUND

by BUSYBEE

SOME news has come out about our cricket players getting together and forming a players union, but no details have been available so far.

Hence, when I was invited, as an observer, to attend a recent general body meeting of the union, I immediately accepted as I felt it would give me a chance to know what it was all about.

The meeting was held at one end of the Chidambaram Stadium in Madras and present and past Test cricketers from all over the country were there, except Ghulam Ahmed, who is a member of the official board and so disallowed union activities. Most of the players carried placards and shouted slogans like "we demand justice" and "cricketers of India unite".

Kishen Singh Bedi was requested to take the chair and he accepted the honour though it meant that he would once again be appointed captain in his and pieces and for single Tests. He made the introductory speech in

his usual bold and outspoken style not hesitating to call a cricket bat a spade.

Lala Amarnath then advised the members on what possible course of action they could take and what would be the likely results of such action. He sounded like he does when he forecasts the results of Tests on the radio and in newspapers.

The discussions then centred around the emoluments of Test players. Sunil Gavaskar, who was welcoming all the cricketers and registering their names, said that the emoluments should be much higher considering that the authorities made money on their talents. Ashok Mankad said that a player should get Rs. 10,000 every time India won a Test and Rs. 5,000 every time a Test was drawn or lost. He also said that players who should have been selected and were not selected for some unknown reasons, should be paid the same amount.

Speaking on behalf of ex-players, Dilip Sardesai urged that all players in the country who had at some time represented India should be given a bonus of Rs. 3,000 every time a Test was played in the country.

At least two members, Chauhan and Vengsarkar, said that the union should take up with the authorities the undesirable practice of constant chopping and changing of reserve players.

There were some members, mostly of the younger lot, who were for direct action on the lines taken up by the Pakistan players. At this stage, Vinay Merchant got up and intervened in the debate, cautioning the members against going too far too fast and closing all doors for negotiations. He said that he was second to none in supporting the players.

However, the meeting decided to pass a resolution congratulating the Pakistan players on the successful conclusion to the discussions with their authorities. It was decided to request Apt Wadekar to convey the resolution to the Pakistan players and their families.

The meeting passed two other resolutions, one against the names of players being used in advertisements by unscrupulous manufacturers, the other against cricket writers writing reports with out first checking facts with the captain.

The meeting also wanted to pass a resolution demanding that "Man of the Match" awards should not be for less than Rs. 50,000, but some of the senior members advised against this.

At the end of the meeting, there was to be a procession through the streets of Madras but it had to be cancelled because of heavy rains and the flooding of streets.

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Timid batting by Kiwis

by LALA AMARNATH

INDIA won the third Test at Madras by 216 runs outclassing the New Zealanders. It was a timid and spineless display of batting by the tourists. This victory is bound to be a great morale-booster to India and, I am sure, we can look forward to their giving a good account of themselves against England.

India won a crucial toss and preferred to bat on a lively rain-soaked wicket that was tailor-made for the visitors' medium-pacers. But fortunately for India Richard Hadlee had to retire after bowling a few ineffective overs. A bowler like Alec Bedser, Amar Singh or Fazal Mahmood would have run through any side by lunch time.

India struggled along, the main batsmen failing to poor shots. Once again it was the lower order batsmen who built up the score after Viswanath had laid the foundation. Syed Kirmani played another solid innings and gave good support to the bonhearted Viswanath. Then Venkatraghavan played perhaps the best innings of his career. He took full advantage of a wicket which was playing fairly easily then and used his height to play many powerful strokes. Cairns and Hadlee shared the bowling honours in the Indian first innings.

Glenn Turner and Mark Burgess looked the best of the New Zealand batsmen in the first innings. The former batted with authority

and if Burgess can get over his habit of carelessly lofting the ball, he will score many more runs in Test cricket. After Gavaskar had taken two wickets, Chandia struck the vital blow getting rid of Turner, who was brilliantly caught behind by Kirmani. Burgess was deceived by Bedi who played for the one that looked like leaving him, but it drifted in, hit his body and rolled on to his stumps.

And with Bedi and Chandia howling at their best the rest of the New Zealanders collapsed. I thought the Kiwis erred in going for the runs when time was of utmost consequence to them at that stage of the game. They should have tried their best to save the game from that moment

from p 6

Just one more thing about Viswanath's innings — he walked before being given out, and congratulations to him for that.

Turner batted extremely well for New Zealand in the two hours possible on the fourth day and Burgess if he chanced his arm at least became that way the sixth New Zealand batsman to reach 2000 runs in Test cricket. Turner, Congdon, Reid, Sutcliffe and Dowling are the others.

There is not much that can be said about the Kiwi batting on the fifth day, except that everyone of them is legitimately out — I put that in just so people will not think that the Kiwis squeal about every decision.

Bedi and Chandrasekhar really made the ball jump and turn from a difficult pitch and any batting side in the world, including the top-ranking Australians would have been very hard put to survive for



The first day of the third and final Test match between India and New Zealand at the Chidambaram Stadium was washed out owing to rain. Skippers Turner and Bedi take a close look at the rain-soaked wicket as the ground staff look away.

In India's second innings, Mohinder Amarnath played one of his best knocks and I consider it better than the one at Kanpur. Ateet Gavaskar and Viswanath had fallen going for big hits, Mankad and Patel got bottled down till Patel found his touch and got the score board moving again.

The New Zealanders were bundled out rather unceremoniously for 143 on the last day. I feel half the side threw their wickets away, batting like novices on a turning track. Most of them skied the ball when there was no need for such rash strokes. I thought Bedi did the side very well. He has infused a new confidence into the players and they now work as a team.

long. It was magnificent bowling, no doubt about it.

The great bail row set the Indian second innings off on a bad course and things did not get much better when Amarnath enjoined the Kiwis in some strong words. Though Gavaskar's dismissal was probably the worst decision of the lot, I was rather disappointed with the Kiwi bowling in the second innings except perhaps that of Hadlee who kept up a lively pace, firing them hard and troubling all the batsmen.

O'Sullivan did for some time but when one considers the bowling of Bedi on the same pitch earlier in the day, O'Sullivan disappointed. Of course the main Kiwi aim was to keep the runs down, which was why Petherick was little used until the end.

But, getting quick wickets is a good way to keep runs down and this innings did emphasise that the tourists only lacked a spinner capable of exploiting a bad pitch to maximum advantage.

ALAN GRAHAM

as did Kirmani after the run out business.

Cairns took his best ever Test figures of five for 55 which by coincidence exactly equalled his best first class figures achieved for New Zealand against South Australia.

He is a useful bowler as support rather than as an opening bowler, the role he has had to fill here. Cairns is also a better batsman than you have seen here and hits very hard on faster wickets.

Hadlee's bumpers at Bedi caused a flurry late in the innings. The Kiwis defended these by saying "Bish" is a recognised batsman these days and by claiming that the balls were not short anyway.

But I tended to disagree here. I think the non-recognised batsman rule is unsatisfactory and needs rethinking. It happens to exist right now and I believe it was introduced to protect batsmen just like Bedi.

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1 Who will win the first test match ?
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2 Which Indian player will score the highest in the first test match ? (in any one innings)
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For pace bowlers

I AM all for long-term planning to lay down grassy fast wickets to encourage youngsters to take up fast bowling as a worthwhile job. But this is a long-term process. What until then? I have a simple scheme which can be put into practice with practically no expense.

We can take a few well built strong young pace bowlers at the high school and university levels and ask them to bowl to our Gaskars and Viswanaths in the nets from a distance of say 19 or 20 yards instead of 22 yards for a month or so before any tour abroad.

I am sure that if Madan Lal or Abid Ali were to bowl at our batsmen from 20 yards then speed will approximate that of Roberts or Holding or Lillee or Thompson.

Of course, we should not ask our established pace bowlers to do this work lest it spoils their natural rhythm and future. The least that my idea will do is to quicken the reflexes of our batsmen in preparation to face the fast bowlers. Any takers?

—A G Bhagwat (Chandigarh)

Tea boycott

I HEARD during the Test commentary that Glenn Turner's team did not join the Indian players for lunch on the last day of the Kanpur Test. This reminds me of a similar episode. Lindsay Hassett's Australian Services XI when playing at Poona in 1945-46 against the Combined Universities of India XI led by Madhav Mantri did not join their hosts for tea on the 2nd day of the two day match as the home captain did not declare the innings even though the Universities had surpassed their total by noon. I was a member of the Universities squad then.

—Raja Ketkar (Ahmedabad)

Fantastic

WHAT a fantastic scorecard India had in the first innings of the second Test against New Zealand at Kanpur. If I am not wrong, this may be a new record in Test history when all the eleven reached double figures but none passed the 100-mark in a huge total of 524.

—A Vincent (Guntakal).

Why not this?

OUR medium-pace bowlers are usually taken off after a few overs and Bedi along with Chandrasekhar and Venkataraghavan take charge till the end of the innings.

Why doesn't Bedi find a need to bring back the medium pacers or try a non regular bowler when he finds it difficult to break a partnership? Eathier Ashok Mankad or Anshuman Gaekwad can do that.

—Prabhakar K Naik (Goa)

Incorrect?

IN your issue dated November 14, P N Sundaresan has claimed to have "exploded" the myth that Chandrasekhar is expensive. I am afraid this claim is not quite correct. Whether a bowler is expensive or economical is largely a matter of definition. If runs per wicket is the yardstick to be applied then Chandra is no more expensive than the rest. However, when a captain is trying to keep down the run, he is interested in the bowler who gives away the least runs per over. Now if we apply this yardstick an entirely different picture emerges.

—Maj S K Bose (Pune)

Congrats

MY heartiest congratulations to skipper Shanta Rangaswamy and her team for their first ever victory in a Test match.

—Ravi Prakash Sinha (Patna)



Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis appears comfortable in the saddle as she takes part in a fox hunt in New Jersey. She is a regular participant in these hunts.

Disgraceful

THE performance of the Indian hockey team in the recently concluded International Hockey Tournament at Lahore was shocking and disgraceful. In the name of experimenting, many players, who had not even taken part in senior nationals at home, were included while some experienced players were left out.

Secondly, there was no proper coaching of the team. As a result, India finished fifth in a field of nine teams. After the dismal performance of our hockey team at Montreal, this has been another blow which will have an adverse effect on the revival of Indian hockey.

The severity of the situation can be judged from the fact that even Prithpal Singh, Chairman of the Hockey Selection Committee, has offered to quit his post because of circumstances prevailing in the IIT.

—M P Verma (Chandigarh)

Epidemic

A SERIOUS epidemic that threatens to creep into our sports is the last minute withdrawals by various teams from tournaments. Something has to be done to prevent this disease from spreading, the sooner the better.

Last minute withdrawals throw organisers' schedules out of gear. Besides withdrawals by outstanding teams dampens the enthusiasm of the spectators.

A suitable penalty must be imposed on teams withdrawing without a sufficient reason. Why should teams send in their entries if they are not sure of participating?

—Francis D'Souza (Goa)

Surprise

IT was surprising to note that India did not take the opportunity to film the proceedings of the Asian Badminton tournament held in India this year. The films would have helped our young players to know their mistakes and learn the techniques of good players, particularly from China and Indonesia. On the other hand the Chinese were busy filming the entire tournament.

—J Pednekar (Goa)

Good

SPORTSWEEK's reporting of the seventh ARC championships held recently at Hyderabad was of the highest order. The articles by Nandu Natekar were interesting and the pictures were quite fascinating.

—A A Uzair (Hyderabad)

RACING



by RAILBIRD

JAMSHID, born 1964, gave a se-
cond place to the combined
winner of the Great Bombay
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picture with two excellent victo-
ries, the second of which was in the
1400 metres Mahalaja of Morvi
Cup in which he was pitted
against the highest rated Western
horse, Imperial, and Wild Blus-
son, a quality colt who had reeled
off four races in a row last season.

This column has already men-
tioned that when Jamshid scored a
victory on his debut last year
trainer D. P. Pandole believed that
Mr. Sorab Karaka's Lord Jim Cam-
pani grey colt had the makings of
a second Thunder Storm. At that
time it seemed as if that belief was
founded on faith and not realism.
A drastic revision of that assess-
ment must now be made.

Jamshid, going to at level
weight with Wild Blusson and re-
ceiving one kilo from Imperial ac-
cording to the terms of the race
was kept last by the Johnsons as
Samir, Datta, and John Ven-
ous took turns to show the way.

Jamshid the classic

Jamshid started his run midway in
the straight and stretched out
smoothly to score by one length
from Touch of Venus, who had taken
charge of the field from the
Distance Post. Jamshid clocked the
good time of 1 minute, 28 2/5 se-
conds with false rails up. It was a
stunning victory, one which is a shot
in the arm to Jamshid's 2,000 Gui-
neas chances.

Apart from Imperial and Touch of
Venus, two other 1,000 Guineas
hopefuls, Amarantha and Reprint,
were seen in action. The former,
who is by Paddykin Hind Pyari,
was the impressive winner of the
1600 metres Sir Charles Forbes
Cup in which she was pitted against
rivals from the combined Classes
Two and Three and Reprint put in
a sustained finishing effort to score
over House of Lords in the Class
Four Samuel Nathan Plate.

Although Amarantha beat strong-
er opposition, Reprint's showing
was more eye-catching. Amarantha
carried but 47 1/2 kilos while Re-
print, who is by triple crown win-
ner Prince Pradeep out of 1000
Guineas winner Request, shouldered
59 and returned the same time
as that clocked by Jamshid. How-
ever, it would seem to this column
that Imperial remains as the best
prospect for the Indian Classic.

The 13th Asian Racing Confer-
ence, the biggest ever met to-
gether in this country will be
inaugurated by Union Finance
Minister C. Subramaniam, in Bom-

bay on December 2, will attract
President Fakruddin Ali Ahmed, to
the Mahalaxmi Racecourse for the
first time on December 5 and will
give the large number of delegates
an opportunity to observe racing at
each of the three other premier
centres in the country, Bangalore,
Madras and Calcutta. Apart from
the actual racing important discus-
sions will be held and expert notes
will be exchanged on such vital
matters as racing, management,
veterinary science and the Tote.
How much of what goes on will be
conveyed to the enthusiastic race-
goer?

Not much, one believes, because
turf clubs in this country have
still to climb down from their
ivory towers, have yet to learn the
technique of modern press and
public relations. Except in the
South, turf officials, by and large,
behave as if the press has to be
tolerated and not cooperated with.
The reason is that the clubs are
still controlled by diehards who
have not been affected by the
winds of change which have chan-
ged the history of the world.
More's the pity.

Ten top foreign riders are sche-
duled to ride in the two special
conference races, each of which
will carry a winner's prize of Rs.
one lakh to be held at each of the
four centres. The Bombay race day
will be on Sunday, December 5, the
Bangalore one is fixed for Tuesday,
December 7, the Madras one for
Thursday, December 9 and the
Calcutta race day for Saturday,
December 11. All India will be able
to have an interest as arrangements
are being made to accept betting at
all centres on these race days.

The complex that everything
foreign is better affects the race-
goer as much as it does the con-
sumer. Richard Alford was round-
ly booed when the odds on Knight
of Kandy was beaten by Muffin and
when the odds on Sagaro whipped
round at the start of the 1,200 me-
tres Borivli Plate and took no part
in the race. Nothing was said to
Ernie Johnson who lost a certain
race on Venosca in the 1,800 metres
Bombay City Cup.

Alford was admittedly taking
things lightly on Knight of Kandy
when he was well clear of the op-
position and only started to work on
him when Muffin came up strongly.
However, one wonders which rider
would have behaved differently.
He was not at fault on Sagaro, the
start being a wretched one because
the Starter is fast becoming trig-
ger happy. On the other hand,
Johnson showed execrable judg-
ment when trying to bring the
long-striding Venosca along the rail
and thus ran into avoidable trou-
ble.

Royal Western India Turf Club Ltd. 13th Asian Racing Conference

THE INDIA CUP & THE JAPAN CUP

WILL BE RUN ON SUNDAY, 5TH DECEMBER 1976
THE INDIA CUP WILL BE PRESENTED BY HIS
EXCELLENCY SHRI FAKRUDDIN ALI AHMED, PRESI-
DENT OF INDIA AND THE JAPAN CUP WILL BE
PRESENTED BY THE LEADER OF THE JAPANESE
DELEGATION TO THE OWNERS OF THE WINNING
HORSES

VASELINE HAIR TONIC-SPORTSWEEK

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How to enter

Shown here are actual photographs of 9 Indian Test cricketers. All of them have played for India in the past few years.

All you have to do is identify them by their hair styles. For example, the photograph in Box No. 1 could only belong to Bishen Singh Bedi.

Now try and recognise the other 8 players by their hair styles.

Then complete the slogan on the coupon using not more than 10 additional words.

Finally, enclose a cash memo for one bottle of Vaseline Hair Tonic and Scalp Conditioner (any size), and mail the coupon to us.

1st prize

Free return trip to Bangalore and tickets for the MCC Test Match. Includes air passage and a week's accommodation for two at Hotel Ashoka Grandstand Pavilion tickets, plus Rs. 1200 - for other expenses. OR prizes worth Rs. 7000.



2nd prize

RAJDOOT BTR 175



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100 merit prizes

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2. Each entry form must be accompanied by a cash memo for a bottle (any size) of Vaseline Hair Tonic and Scalp Conditioner.
3. The decision of the judges will be final and binding. No correspondence will be entertained.
4. Winner of the First and Second Prizes will be announced in this publication. Others will be informed by post.
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Entry forms with complete rules can be had from your nearest dealer.

Entry forms with complete rules can be had from your nearest dealer.

Entry forms with complete rules can be had from your nearest dealer.

Hurry!
Contest closes on
Dec 31, 1976

Complete this slogan using not more than 10 additional words

Picture number

Player's name

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9

Bedi

and that's what makes Vaseline Hair Tonic and Scalp Conditioner a great hair dressing

Name

Address

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CP-1351

Vaseline
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The magazine that cares for Indian sport

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With a little care.

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The party feeling
Elper textured shirting.
Make the kurta out
bushirt tapered with
looped self-buttons.
Italian collar (one piece)—
slightly puffed sleeves.

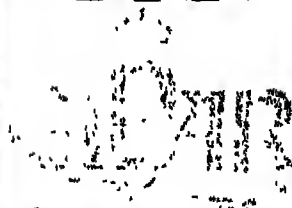


Holiday attire
Elper sheer shirting
—printed or dyed.
Go for the
Long John collar
and tapered fit
with double buttons.



Stylishly sedate
Elper plain textured
shirting. 3 pleats
at the back, also on
pocket and sides
of turned-up sleeves.

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PARAGON TEXTILE MILLS,
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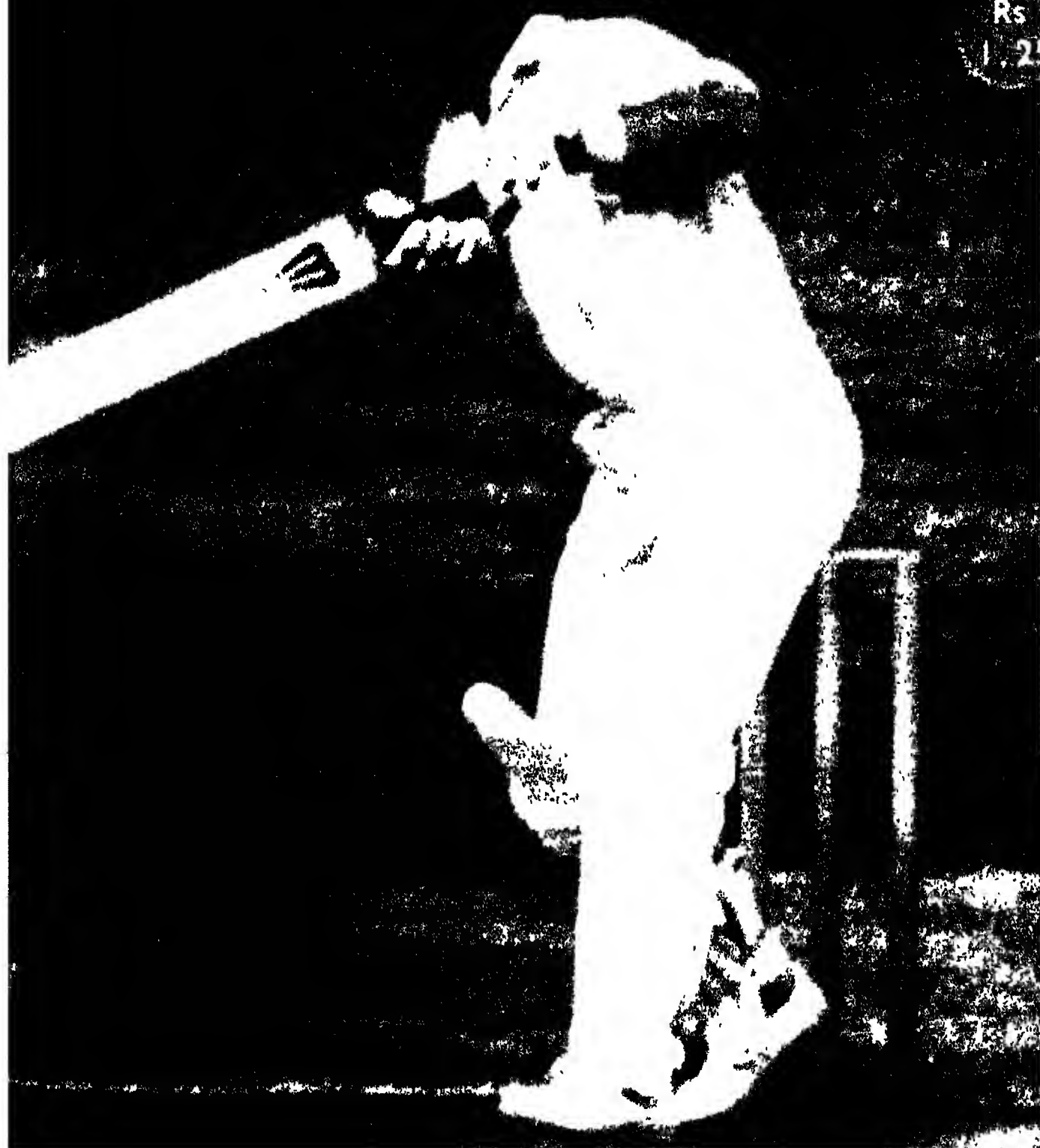
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Sportsweek

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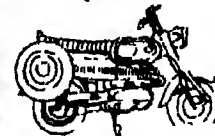
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OR prizes worth Rs. 7000

2nd prize



**RAJDOOT
BTS 175**

Bobby Motorcycle
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Hurry!
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Complete this slogan using not more than 10 additional words.

and that's what makes Vaseline Hair Tonic and Scalp Conditioner a great hair dressing.

Name _____
Address _____

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HEADS YOU WIN CONTEST
POST BAG No. 507 MADRAS 600 008

(P. 135)

Picture number Player's name

1 Bedi

2

3

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Vaseline



The magazine that cares for Indian sport

**Great-looking hair.
With a little care.**

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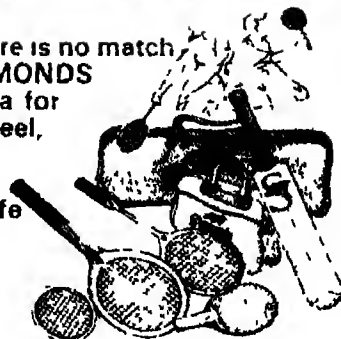
name dropping

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SPORTSWEEK, December 12, 1976

KHALID ANSARI:

A thrilling series could be in store, provided ...

A REAL humdinger of a series appears to be in the offing for the cricket aficionados.

Consider the facts: the manner in which the popular MCC cricketers who, judging by their demeanour on and off the field are past masters in the art of making friends and influencing people, have got going from the word 'go' is indeed admirable. To have adjusted themselves to the so-called Pune 'winter' immediately after arrival from the cold and damp of Old Blighty, as also to the light and pitches of Pune, Jaipur and Ahmedabad speaks volumes for their capacity to adapt and improvise.

Although the West Zone side which faced the visitors was a depleted one, with most of its stalwarts doing duty for India against New Zealand at Madras, it was, nevertheless capable of taking on most zonal sides in the country. The Central Zone team which held the tourists to a rather unimpressive draw at Jaipur was, admittedly, a mediocre one but the Board President's XI engaged in combat, at the time of writing, against the visitors includes in its ranks adequate, if not the best available, young talent.

The visitors have yet to come up against most of India's famed spinners and the specialist batsmen. But what have particularly impressed this writer are the tremendous confidence, morale, positive thinking and team spirit of the visitors which have manifested themselves on all occasions from the day of their arrival in Bombay on November 23.

And, all this mind you, after the rather savage mauling which England received at the hands of the West Indies only a few months ago. A great deal of credit for the 'esprit' must obviously go to skipper Greig and manager Barrington, hard taskmasters and strict disciplinarians, both of who endeared themselves to the Indian public when they were last here.

That this MCC team will make a host of friends is sanguine, if one may be permitted the use of a local horse racing expression. In this respect, the impish, irrepressible Derek Randall promises to overthrow the gregarious Greig as the idol of the hero-worshipping 'janta'.

Consisting as it does of hard-boiled professionals, out to redeem the nation's cricketing image, one may well expect the MCC to play it hard, the more so under the captaincy of Greig who makes no bones about his belief that gamesmanship and 'conning' within the broad laws of the game are perfectly 'legit'.

But it is hoped that the series which promises so much good cricket will be free from the ugly controversies and acrimony which marked the recently concluded one against Glenn Turner's New Zealanders who, to say the least, could not have done very much to cement the excellent relations that have always existed between the two countries.

Up to the time of writing, barring Woolmer, every single MCC batsman seems to have struck

Sportsworld

No. 428

December 12, 1976

COVER: Dennis Amiss, the MCC opener. Transparency. Central Press Photos, London

form, albeit against none-too-impressive bowling. But then, not many visiting sides in the recent past have struck such form so quickly against any kind of bowling.

Consider the figures and you have as good a start to a tour as may be hoped for, with perhaps more to come before the commencement of the first Test on December 17. Mike Brearley (202), Tony Greig (162, inclusive of seven sixes and nine fours), Keith Fletcher (118), Roger Tolchard (67, 44 n o), Derek Randall (48), Alan Knott (108 n o), Geoff Miller (51 n o).

The tourists bat in depth ('rabbits' being conspicuous by their absence), have a well-balanced attack, with a definite edge over India—although this is not saying very much—in the matter of pace, and are an absolutely brilliant fielding side, the sprinting, picking-up and throwing-in of Randall and Barlow, in particular, being a joy to behold. Judging by what this writer has seen so far, Indian batsmen would be foolish to expect many, if any, 'lives'.

Whether or not Geoff Cope, the tourists' best off-spinner, sadly bereaved last week, will return in time for the first Test (it will be recalled Pat Pocock who also lost his father during the last MCC visit did so immediately) remains to be seen. Also whether Bob Willis, the fastest of the MCC quickies, and seamer Mike Selvey will be one hundred percent fit.

On the other hand, the morale of the home side can only be high after the convincing win over New Zealand, howsoever mediocre and depleted a side it may have been.

Time and again has Bedi proved his ability to inspire and to get the best out of his team—be it Delhi, North Zone or India. His long-delayed appointment as captain for all five Tests should serve as a tremendous fillip to his own, and his team's, confidence. It should also help team-spirit no end.

India have an unquestionable edge over the tourists in the spin department. And, the big crowds which one may reasonably expect at the Test centres will be predictably rooting vociferously for the home side.

Forecasts and promises about the preparation of wickets are getting to be amusing. Despite the Board's stated objective of preparing pitches to suit our spinners for the current twin-series, it does appear as though our 'groundsmen' are as incapable of preparing "spinners' wickets" as they are of producing lively ones to encourage pace bowlers, about which so much nonsense has been spouted, precious little achieved. In the series against New Zealand, for instance, barring the Madras track, the other two pitches did not appreciably assist spin bowling. The less, therefore, said about "spinners' wickets" the better.

To dwell, at this stage, upon the wayward, inconsistent ways of some of our players would only undermine morale. However, all of India will be hoping that her players will come up to expectations. Were that to happen, an absolutely pulsating series could be in store.

MCC AT JAIPUR

Central Zone struggle



Alan Knott, who scored a whirlwind century in MCC's second innings, pulls one to the mid-wicket fence



Central opener Ansari backs away and is bowled first ball by Old



Rajasthan Chief Minister Harideo Joshi being introduced to Central players by Kishen Kungia, secretary, RCA

Pics : KAMAL
JULKA

ARTIFICIAL declarations to sustain interest in a match is the thing in English county cricket. We had a taste of it in Jaipur when first the MCC and then Central Zone declared their innings to maintain some interest in the three-day match. But despite MCC's double declaration, the match ended in a draw, Central Zone fighting to the end to avoid defeat.

Central, one of the weakest zonal sides, were no match for the visitors. Their batting was inconsistent and the attack was too feeble to contain the free-stroking MCC batsmen.

The wicket at the Sawai Man Singh Stadium had nothing to offer the bowlers. It was hard and firm. Yet, the Central Zone batsmen



Alan Knott receiving the Man of the Match award—a snit length presented by Rashtradoot and OCM Suitings—from SW Managing Editor Khalid Ansari

gave a timid display If left arm fast bowler John Lever broke through the top of their batting in the first innings, it was Lever and Woolmer who made them struggle in the second They lost four wickets for 26 runs and it was only strong rearguard action by Parthasarathy Sharma and veteran Hanumant Singh that saved them from defeat

Left-hander Graham Barlow will remember the Pink City for long because he recorded his first century of the tour here But, one thing should be admitted His 113 runs did not come off strokes all round the wicket He is predominantly an onside player and his innings lacked variety of stroke Amiss was business-like while compiling his 60 before he was run out But Randall's unbeaten 48 was quite promising, full of strokes He also won the hearts of the spectators with his spectacular fielding in the covers

The MCC had declared at the overnight score of 260 for three wickets In reply, Central Zone declared at 169 for the loss of eight wickets The only good thing about the home team's batting was a stylish 64 made by Vidarbha batsman Anil Deshpande (280 minutes, 8 fours) Hanumant surprised everyone here by declaring his side's innings, 91 runs behind the visitors' total MCC then rattled up 175 runs in 132 minutes before declaring their second innings, Alan Knott hammering an unbeaten 108, off 110 balls

On the last day, Sharma, Deshpande and Hanumant came to the rescue of the home side when acting skipper Mike Brearley pressed hard for a victory

The MCC looked a fitter side, very agile and alert in the field with Derek Randall taking the honours for some outstanding work

— PRAKASH BHANDARI

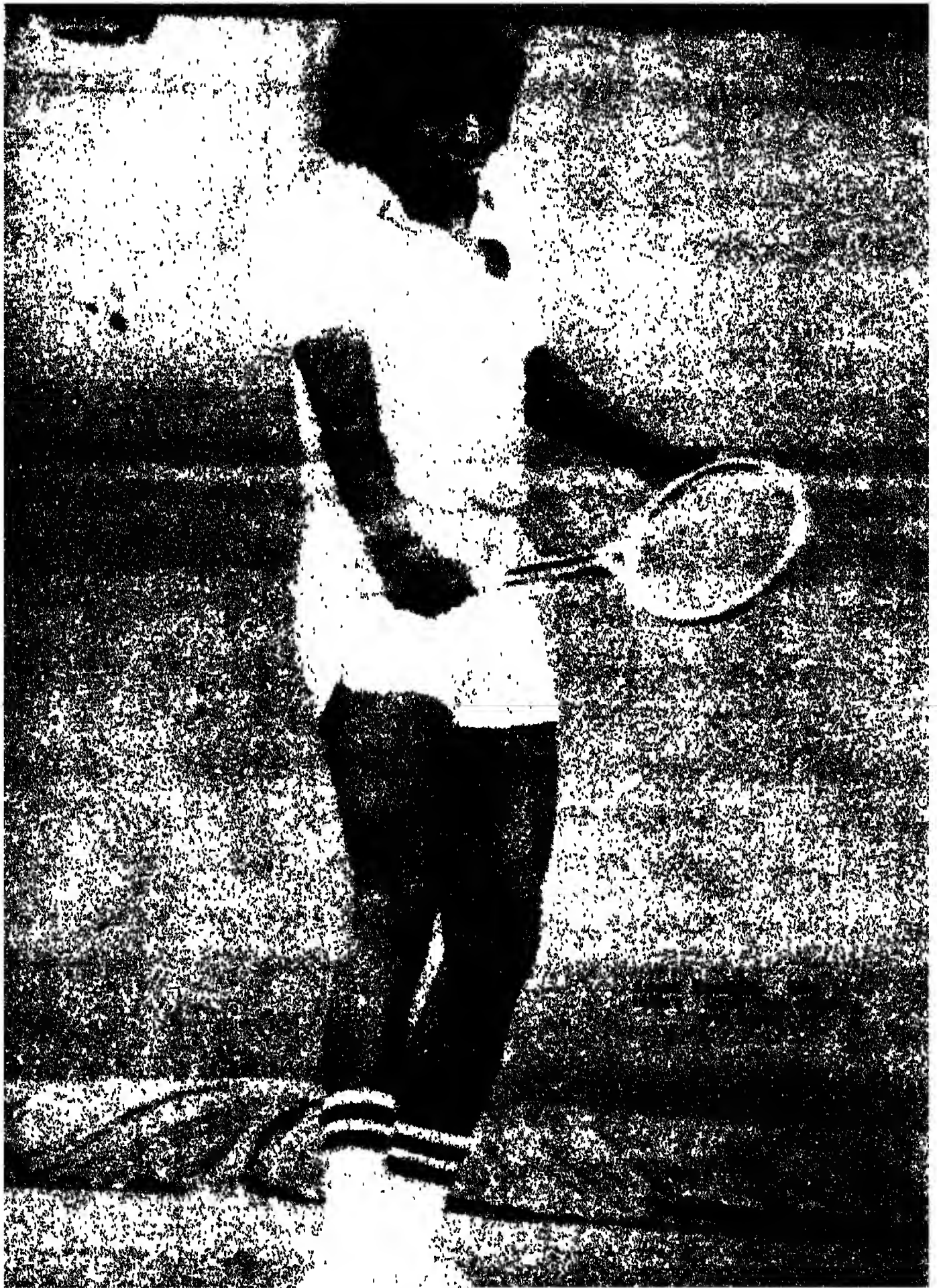
GRAHAM BARLOW, John Lever and Alan Knott were adjudged the best batsman, the best bowler and the Man of the Match, respectively of the three day match between the MCC and Central Zone at Jaipur

They were awarded a suit-length each by the sponsors—Rajasthan's leading Hindi daily, Rashtradoot and OCM, a woollen textile manufacturer

A panel of judges comprising Alex Bannister, the cricket correspondent of the Daily Mail, London, Kishen Rungta, honorary secretary of the Rajasthan Cricket Association and S. L. Mathuria, a local sports correspondent, Khalid Ansari, Managing Editor of SPORTSWEEK, gave away the awards



Graham Barlow . . . century on first appearance in India, followed by another at Ahmedabad



Davis Cup : Japan edged out

Salute Anand

THE most remarkable part of India's 3-2 Davis Cup triumph over Japan was that we won though we did not have the services of Vijay Amritraj in the singles. Even more remarkable was that Vijay's brother, Anand, saw us through in our darkest hour.

Like the famous Mankad Test at Lord's, it was verily Anand's Davis Cup tie at Delhi. He put us level after Sashi Menon had lost the opening tie against Jun Kamiwazumi, gained us the lead by claiming the doubles in the company of his illustrious brother and finally clinched the issue by downing Japan's star player in the fifth and final match. Anand, indeed, beat Japan.

And to recall that practically everyone had concluded that Anand ought to be reserved exclusively for the doubles! Lending further credence to this near-unanimous view of the players, press and the public was the "evidence" provided by the recent Grand Prix where Sashi Menon went as far as the final and Anand bowed out in the quarter final. Not only that, Menon rounced Alvin Gardiner who had eliminated Anand and followed it up with a significant success over the Pakistani ace, Haroon Rahim.

How come then that Anand

stole the show in the Davis Cup tie the following week while Menon flopped totally? One reason could be that Anand produced his best because he was being pushed by Menon and was in danger of losing his place. A far more important reason is that while Anand has gained considerable experience of playing in the Davis Cup, Menon was figuring in his first tie of consequence.

The pressures of a Davis Cup match are such that even a hardened pro can wilt under them. The difference between a Davis Cup tie and an open tournament, be it even Wimbledon, is the difference, say, between a Test match and a Ranji Trophy tie. You are not simply playing for yourself — and the money — as in an open tournament. You are playing for the country and you are constantly aware that one false step can let down your nation.

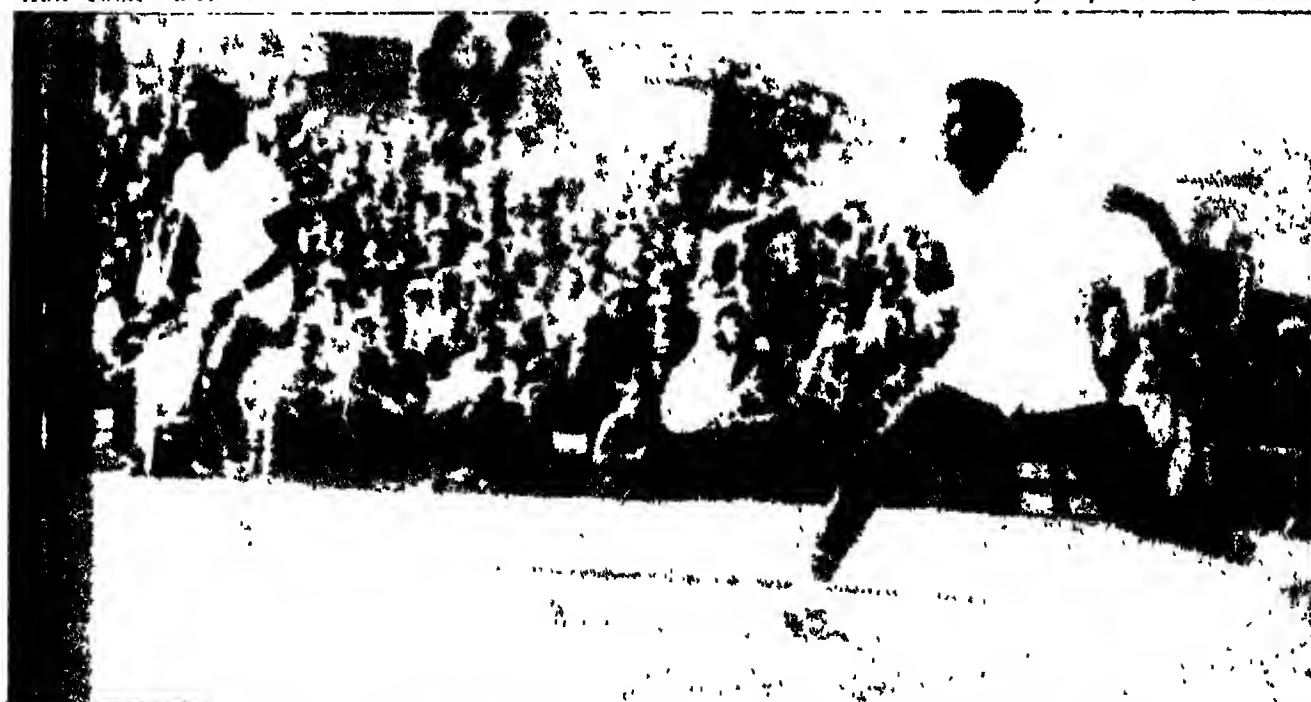
Two instances should suffice to show the effects a Davis Cup tie can have on a player's nerves. Some years ago, in the match against Australia at Bangalore, Dick Crealy had become such a wreck that he could hardly serve. And service was supposed to be Crealy's forte. Why, Anand himself was in such a state in the match

with Russia at Pune two years ago that he could hardly hit the ball across though his opponent, Kaku-lia, had suffered an attack of cramps and was hobbling on one leg!

So, while rightly singing the praise of Anand for his major role in our success over Japan, let us not be too harsh on Menon. If poor Menon was unable to respond to all the counselling and cajoling of skipper Ramanathan Krishnan it was simply because he was overcome by the dire need to win.

However, Anand more than made up for Menon's failures. How magnificently he rose to the occasion! How superb was his control over the return of serve. Though he served and volleyed well, I think it was his return of serve that gave him the edge over his opponents, especially in the vital match against Kamiwazumi. Time and again, the Japanese would rush to the net only to be hopelessly beaten by the uncanny knack with which Anand returned the serve down the line and across. It was hard to tell which way till the last second.

Though he lapsed momentarily and conceded the second set, Anand was vastly superior to Hirai. He



Vijay (right) and Anand Amritraj pulled off a easy victory in the doubles over Kamiwazumi and Hirai

could have got into deep trouble when he conceded his service in the opening game of the third set but rose so splendidly to the challenge that he took the next two games and the set

Anand hustled Hirai all the time and dominated at the net with some crisp volleying. Though forced to stay at the baseline and play second fiddle, Hirai fought bitterly in the fourth set. Games went with service after the rivals had faltered early on but Anand got the decisive break in the eleventh game and won home at 6-2, 3-6, 6-1, 7-5, after 105 minutes.

Superiority

The Anuttaj brothers overwhelmed Kaniwazumi and Hirai in the doubles, dropping just eight games in all. Though the Indians' superiority in the doubles was well known, the question mark over Vijay's fitness caused some anxiety. Vijay showed no trace of back trouble but nearly made everyone skip a beat every time he stretched or smashed.

At the same time it was heartening to note the refreshing freedom with which Vijay played. As always, Anand was the schemer and Vijay administered the coup de grace.

So far the tie had gone along predictable lines. Now it only remained for Sashi to beat Hirai and fulfil hopes. Menon, however, just couldn't get going. Not even after he had struggled his way through the first and second sets and had to only serve out for the match in the 12th game of the third. Hirai, who was under greater pressure,



Sashi Menon just could not get going . . . was it nerves?



Kenichi Hirai (left) fought like a tiger to down Menon and keep Japan's hopes alive

than Menon, hit two good backhand returns of serve at this stage and gained the psychological advantage thereafter.

India appeared doomed after this reverse, for Kaniwazumi had beaten Vijay in Japan last year and at Forest Hills again this year. Undaunted by either the situation or his opponent's record, Anand produced perhaps his best-ever display. He strode the court like a Colossus and all the gallant retrieving by the Japanese could not stem the flow of powerful winners from his racket. Though he dropped his service in the fifth game of the first set, Anand hit back at once and breezed through, 8-6, 6-1, 6-4, in just 84 minutes. Salute him! And go get the fat calf!

—SW Correspondent

THE ART OF CRICKET

Forcing shot off the back foot

JUST because a ball is short of what we may term a good length and the striker has to play back, it does not follow that he must be on the defensive

If the ball is pitched outside the stumps he may have several alternative shots to attempt. But if it is pitched on the middle stump, not short enough to pull, he is restricted on the grounds of safety to a forcing shot off the back foot past the bowler.

It is a safe shot but demands great power from wrists and forearms, and very good timing.

The initial movement should be similar to that for a back defensive stroke except that the right foot should be taken back rather straighter. This is in order to give the striker more freedom to swing the bat and put power into his shot, for now we are thinking in terms of a very solid hit and follow through.

The left hand becomes really a guide. Power is generated from the right hand in co-ordination with wrists, forearms, etc. Nothing can teach the shot so well as a study of the moving picture sequence.

The shot depicted is that used when playing the ball back past the bowler between his position of delivery and mid-on.

Bowlers find it very hard to recover their balance and get across to stop a shot in that direction.

If mid-on is fielding wide, a couple of such drives will probably cause the bowler to put him straighter, and immediately a wider area of country becomes available for scoring shots between mid-on and square-leg.

A forcing shot off the back foot, similar in its general execution to that described, may be played whereby the batsman, by hitting slightly across the ball or by turning his blade on contact, will be able to drive firmly wide of mid-on.

Then, too, it may be used to force the ball through the covers when the direction of the ball is well clear of the off stump.

This latter stroke, however, demands great precision because the striker has committed himself to the shot by the time the ball lands and, therefore, it is well nigh impossible to change it should the ball do something unexpected off

the pitch. One which cuts away, for instance, could easily cause a slip catch.

It is important to stand well up over the ball and lean into the shot. Any tendency to pull away will accentuate the chance of a slip catch.

That unpredictable genius, Denis Compton, would sometimes offend every text book by backing away to the leg side and playing the ball into the covers, especially against a slow leg-break bowler.

If you can do it and get away with it, well and good, but I don't recommend you to try unless your place in the team is already secure.

The leg glances

There are two leg glances. One, termed the back leg glance, is played with the weight on the back foot and from behind the crease. The other, termed the forward leg glance, is played forward of the crease with the weight on the front foot.

In each case the purpose of the

When glancing very fine, only half (or even a quarter) of the blade may be visible to the bowler as ball strikes bat. When the ball is glanced more firmly, and therefore squarer, perhaps three quarters of the blade may be visible. The blade is turning as the ball is struck and there is little margin for error.

I am a great believer in playing shots with the full face of the bat whenever possible, and a firm shot to mid-wicket may often be a better proposition than a glance. It depends largely on the field placing.

If there is an array of leg slips and a man on the fence at fine-leg, obviously a leg glance would present no attraction. But assuming no leg slips and a man stationed at mid-wicket, then the glance would be the obvious choice when the right ball came along.

Whether played forward or back the glance is a delightful shot to watch and it is another reason why I deplore so much the modern theory of leg slips. On so many occasions they force the batsmen

by SIR DONALD BRADMAN

stroke is to glance the ball somewhere between the wicket-keeper and square-leg.

The direction which the ball follows after being struck will vary according to the fullness of the blade on impact. Being a glance, the full face of the bat is not employed.

in their own interests to abort all attempts at glancing.

However, opportunities do arise and the strokes should be in the repertoire of any complete batsman.

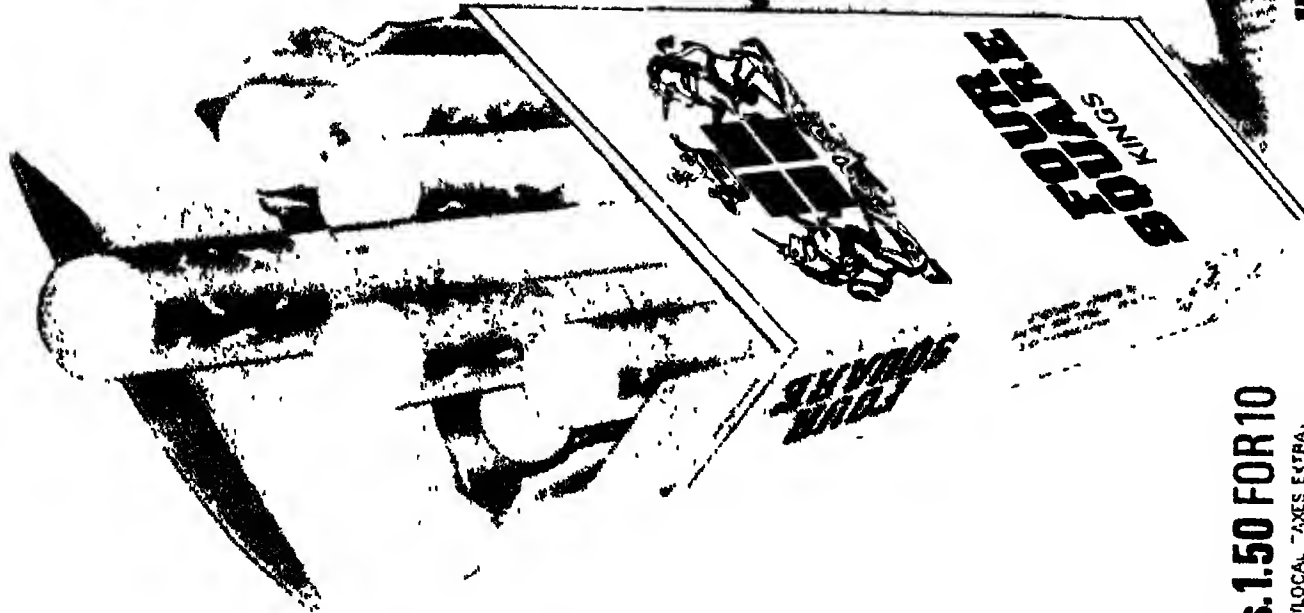
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Aussie tour on schedule

AUSTRALIA's scheduled tour of the West Indies early in 1978 will go ahead, whether or not the itinerary has to be altered to omit those territories whose governments have banned sportsmen who have played in South Africa or Rhodesia, the West Indies Cricket Board has decided.

The tour, one of the most eagerly anticipated in recent years, was in jeopardy when the governments of Guyana and Jamaica announced that they would allow no player who had been to South Africa or Rhodesia to enter their countries. The English Youth Cricketers were first to feel the effects of the action which they toured the Caribbean in August and were forced to skip both Guyana and Jamaica because the tour had been cancelled. Christopher Cowdrey, who had played in South Africa,

Guyana and Jamaica are two of the traditional Test match centres in the West Indies and it was felt that, without them, the Australian tour — and those in recent years including England and New Zealand — would not have been financially feasible. Tours have proceeded in the past without Guyana (the Indians were forced to omit George Town in 1967 because of political problems and again this year because of weather) with Tests scheduled for either Trinidad or Jamaica on those occasions. However, it would be far more difficult to relocate two Tests.

The dilemma is the lack of proper facilities away from the four main territories of Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad. None of the grounds in the Windward and Leeward Islands is anything near Test standard at the moment with seating capacity limited everywhere to below 5,000. With the possibility of Test cricket shifting there, however, many of the islands have indicated they would have government backing to build new stands and pavilions to accommodate the Australians—or any other Test team that may come their way.

In a lengthy statement issued after its recent meeting in Castries, St Lucia, the West Indies Cricket Board of Control restated its position with regard to South Africa and Rhodesia and gave the assurance that the Australian tour will take place.

The Board said it had "gone as far as it can" on the thorny question of South Africa and Rhodesia. This has been to endorse the official position of the International

Cricket Conference that no official team from any ICC country should exchange visits with South Africa "unless and until it is fully satisfied that cricket is played and teams are selected in that country on a multi-racial basis".

In addition, the Board has advised West Indian players they would not be permitted to participate in matches or be selected in teams under its jurisdiction if they

played or coached in South Africa or Rhodesia.

The statement noted efforts recently to bring about a new sports policy in South Africa, calling it "a positive step in eliminating apartheid and racism in sport".

The crux of their deliberations dealt with the Australian tour and, on this, the statement declared: "Cricket is an integral part of life in all West Indian territories and it has proved to be the most unifying force in the Caribbean. Negotiations for the tour of Australia to the West Indies in 1978 have already begun and the possibility that some Australians may not be permitted to enter some West Indian countries will have an effect of bringing about a rescheduling of the proposed itinerary".

It added: "This in itself will cause stresses and strains within the framework of West Indies cricket administration. It is the duty of the Board to ensure that West Indies as a cricket entity does not disintegrate".

The Board then issued what

amounted to an ultimatum to the two governments concerned, even though it was not phrased as such. It said that it earnestly hoped that "before the negotiations for and the planning of the Australian tour are concluded at its (the Board's) next meeting in May, 1977, the policies of all governments of the West Indian territories will enable the Board to schedule matches in all territories".

by TONY COZIER

No mention was made of where the Tests would be resited, if the need arises, or whether players from Guyana and Jamaica would be eligible for selection on the West Indies team if their governments maintain their policies.

Later, the Board said that Dominica and Bermuda had indicated that they were interested in hosting Test cricket. It is also known that Antigua (the home island of Andy Roberts and Vivian Richards) is improving its ground facilities and would be keen to stage a Test.

There is a feeling in some quarters that it is inconsistent of governments to refuse entry to a visiting team and yet allow its nationals to play against that same team elsewhere. Nevertheless, Guyanese and Jamaicans did play for the West Indies Youth team against the English Young Cricketers side which was banned from Guyana and Jamaica and the West Indies Board, at least, is keen to preserve the overall unity of its team, despite the political differences.

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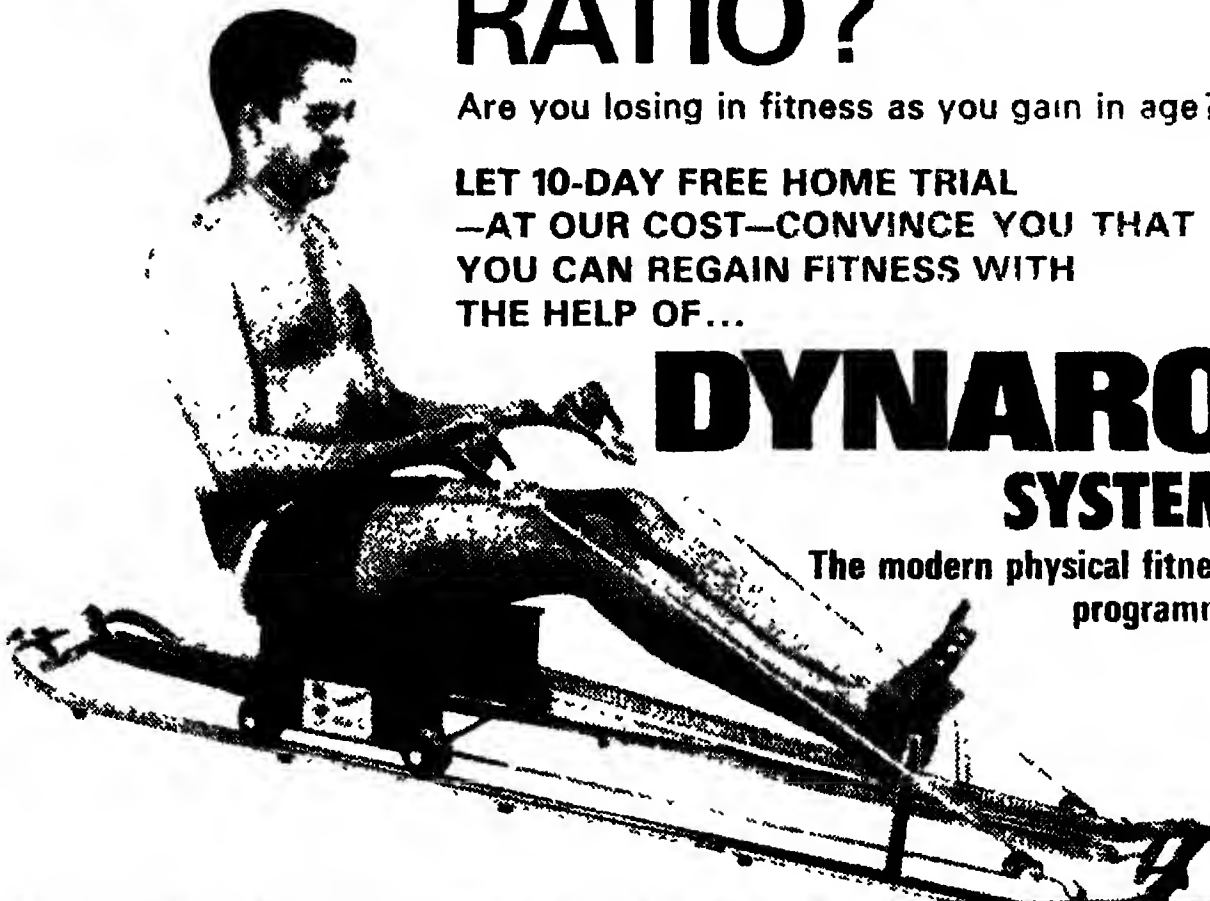
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Kiwis depart in sorrow

AS I start to write these words, the New Zealanders, two floors above me in the stately Connemara Hotel, are assembling for the last team meeting of their tour of Pakistan and India. The main item on the agenda is to drown their sorrows in whatever beverage is available.

Indeed, much has happened to make the New Zealanders sorrowful. They have lost four out of six Tests, the defeat by 216 runs at Madras being as heavy as any they have sustained on this trip.

Their fate in the final Test was more or less sealed when they lost the toss yet again because it was obvious that this pitch would not last the distance.

There had been so much rain in the week before that the groundsmen could not possibly get in as much preparation as is required for a Test match pitch in terms of actual playing time. The issue was decided in less than four days.

India were lucky to make 293 in the first innings because water had got under the covers and there were damp spots in plenty on the pitch on the first and second days.

In fact, if India were playing Australia, West Indies or England

on that first day, Bedi would probably have put the opposition in first even if it meant conceding the advantage of bowling in the fourth innings.

Although the New Zealanders lacked the bowling arsenal of the big three, I think Turner played his cards wrong. He should have

by **DICKY RUTNAGUR**

carried a left-arm seamer and had him aiming at the big wet spot at the far end from round the wicket.

But in every way luck rode with India. The innings was not half an hour old when Richard Hadlee took ill and left the field. His absence was doubtlessly a considerable help to India in recovering from the loss of Garkwad and Gavaskar for only three runs.

The situation demanded another outstanding innings from Viswanath and again the little man responded. Even against an attack as limited as New Zealand's, it was not easy to play shots on this pitch, but Viswanath played them as often and as well as any batsman would have done under the circumstances.

But for a violent storm that cut

short that day's play by 75 minutes, Viswanath would almost certainly have got his second hundred in successive innings. He only needed another 18 next morning. He got five runs closer to his objective and then fell to a quirk of the pitch which was again two paces as a result of overnight rain.

Viswanath was well-positioned to hook a ball from Hadlee but it came through slowly and induced a false stroke. The only previous serious error that Viswanath made was when he edged a square-cut at O'Sullivan (at 55) and got away with a sharp chance to Turner at slip.

The tone and tempo of the Indian batting fell after Viswanath and so did India's fortunes. At lunch India were 187 for seven—a situation one could describe as parlous.

The strong afternoon sun dried out the pitch and drained New Zealand bowlers of their strength. Kumari and Venkatraghavan, who registered the best score of his Test career, settled down to stage a recovery. They added 74 runs and also consumed a fair amount of time.

When Kumari left and Bedi



Skipper Bishen Bedi holds aloft the A. S. D'Mello Trophy as the Indian team takes a lap of honour. Ghavri, Chandra, Venkat and Kirmani (partially hidden) are the other players in the pic.



As Bedi prods the pitch, skipper Glenn Turner explains to the umpires that Hadlee's vicious bumper to the Indian captain must have reared off the wet patch

came in to join Venkataraghavan, Hadlee, who had tended to bowl a pretty full length all day dug a couple in just a little bit short. Having perpetrated a fair bit of violence on the bowling during his 50 at Kanpur, one is not sure if Bedi could claim immunity from short-pitched bowling to which a non-recognised batsman is now entitled to. But the umpire noticed Bedi's discomfiture and had words with Turner.

New Zealand's innings was spread over three days but in actual fact it occupied no more than 228 minutes. With the ball turning, they saw no future in trying to defend. Their object was to disperse the close-in fieldsmen. It was a laudable and wise approach but it did not work.

There was rather a tempestuous

start to India's second innings. In Hadlee's second over, the New Zealanders appealed for hit-wicket against Anshuman Gaekwad after he had taken evasive action to a bumper. A ball fallen on the wicketkeeper's side of the stumps was presented in evidence of their claim. Umpire Ghose ruled in favour of the batsman upon which a furious argument developed. At one point, Hadlee flung a ball directly at umpire Ghose and at the end of that over petulantly snatched his cap from the other umpire who was not involved in the controversy.

Soon afterwards, Hadlee had the satisfaction of splintering Gaekwad's off stump. But the atmosphere in the middle remained charged with anger. It was no comfort to the New Zealanders that

Gavaskar was given out stumped when he was not out and without the wicketkeeper appealing. An 'Indian Express' photograph showed Lees breaking the wicket without the ball in his hands.

Let us say that the behaviour of the New Zealanders fell below the standards set up by teams that have come to us before from their country. But at the same time, let it be put on record that while they were collapsing on the last day, they never waited for an umpire's decision if they were satisfied that they were out. To his credit, Glenn Turner set the trend. The bounce and turn in the pitch were a little bit too much for the New Zealanders on the last day and at no stage was there any doubt that India would complete the job well in time.



Was Gaekwad out hit-wicket? The angry New Zealanders thought so, but the umpire didn't. The Kiwis made no mistake of displaying their feelings.

Statistical highlights of Kanpur

WHEN Warren Lees and David O'Sullivan denied a win to India against all expectations on November 23 in the Second Test, it was the sixth successive draw in a total of 9 Tests at Kanpur. The first two Tests played at this venue had been won by visiting teams (England in 1952 and West Indies in 1958) and the third in sequence was won by India against Australia in 1959. Since then, India has drawn once each vs Pakistan in 1960 and Australia in 1969, and thrice vs England in 1961, 1964 and 1973.

INDIA's total of 571 for 9 declared is the highest by the home team in all Tests played at Kanpur outstripping the previous best of 467 for 8 declared against England in 1951. The highest by a visiting team at Kanpur is 559 for 8 declared by England in 1964.

THE unbroken third wicket stand of 163 between Amarnath and Viswanath is the highest partnership by an Indian pair in any Kanpur Test, replacing the previous best of 174, also for the third wicket, between Nadkarni



While in Bombay the New Zealanders were invited to Happy Home, Century Bazar's department store and presented gifts

and Sardesai against England in 1964. The highest by a visiting team is the fourth wicket stand of 206 between Barrington and Dexter for England in 1961.

INDIA achieved in the first innings of the Kanpur Test the remarkable feat of each batsman

reaching double figures in an innings for the third time in Test history. The previous two occasions were in the Calcutta Test of the 1952-53 series against Pakistan and the Dunedin Test against New Zealand in 1967-68.

- B B MAMA

INDIA v NEW ZEALAND THIRD TEST

Played at Chopaluk, Madras, November 26, 27, 28, 30 December 1, 2, 1976 (First day — No play due to rain. Second day — Rain stopped play 18 minutes after tea. Third day — Start delayed for an hour. Fourth day — No play, till 90 minutes after lunch. Altogether, 672 minutes lost due to rain).

Result: India won by 216 runs.

Toss won by India.

Test debut: Nil.

Umpires: Mohammed Ghouse and K. B. Ramaswami (Both replacements of originally appointed umpires and both making their debut as Test umpires). H. P. Sharma was held up due to inclement weather and could not reach Madras in time. M. V. Gothokar was suddenly taken ill on eve of start of Test on second day.

INDIA

S. M. Gavaskar b Cairns	2	st Lees b O'Sullivan	43
A. D. Gaekwad c Parker b Cairns	0	b Hadlee	11
M. Amarnath c Petherick b Cairns	21	c Morrison b Hadlee	55
G. R. Viswanath c Lees b Hadlee	87	st Lee b O'Sullivan	17
B. P. Patel run out	33	not out	40
A. V. Mankad b Cairns	14	c Burgess b Petherick	21
+ S. M. H. Kirmani lbw b Petherick	44		
K. Ghavri c Petherick b Hadlee	8		
S. Venkat c sub (Colledge) b Cairns	64		
* B. S. Bedi c Cairns b Hadlee	5		
B. S. Chandrasekhar not out	1		
Extras (B 7, Lb 4, W 1, Nb 3)	19	(B 11, Lb 2, Nb 1)	14
Total	290	(for 5 wks decl)	201

FALL OF WICKETS

10 (Gaekwad), 23 (Gavaskar), 340 (Amarnath), 4137 (Patel), 5167 (Viswanath), 6167 (Mankad), 7181 (Ghavri), 8235 (Kirmani), 9276 (Bedi), 10298 (Venkat)

BOWLING

Hadlee	21	7	37	1
Cairns	33.1	11	55	5
Roberts	17	5	32	0
O'Sullivan	34	9	69	0
Petherick	25	5	77	1
Howarth	3	1	9	0

NEW ZEALAND

* G. M. Turner c Kirmani b Chandra	57	c Amarnath b Chandra	5
J. F. M. Morrison c Kirmani b Ghavri	7	c Chandra b Ghavri	1
J. M. Parker c Patel b Ghavri	9	c Kirmani b Chandra	38
M. G. Burgess b Bedi	40	run out	15
A. D. G. Roberts c Venkat b Chandra	1	c Gavaskar b Bedi	0
G. P. Howarth c Venkat b Bedi	3	c Chandra b Bedi	18
+ W. Lees c Venkat b Bedi	9	c sub (Maden Lal) b Bedi	21
R. J. Hadlee c Gaekwad b Bedi	21	c Amarnath b Bedi	5
B. L. Cairns c Mankad b Bedi	5	not out	8
D. R. O'Sullivan c Venkat b Chandra	0	c Patel b Chandra	21
P. J. Petherick not out	0	lbw b Venkat	1
Extras (B 1, Lb 2, Nb 5)	8	(B 7, Lb 2, Nb 1)	10
Total	140		143

FALL OF WICKETS

117 (Morrison), 237 (Parker), 391 (Turner), 499 (Burgess), 5101 (Roberts), 6103 (Howarth), 7133 (Hadlee), 8133 (Lees), 9136 (O'Sullivan), 10140 (Cairns), 11142 (Morrison), 221 (Purcell), 430 (Burgess), 431 (Roberts), 529 (Parker), 685 (Howarth), 7103 (Hadlee), 8114 (Lees), 9142 (O'Sullivan), 10143 (Petherick)

BOWLING

Amarnath	8	3	17	0
Ghavri	13	3	32	2
Bedi	16.4	4	48	5
Chandra	15	5	28	3
Venkat	2	0	7	0

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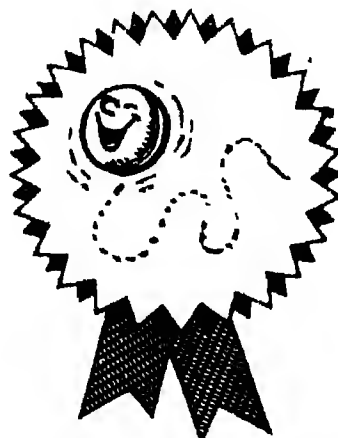
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every inch of the way



Karsan Ghavri

For reviving
our interest in
the new ball



Chandrasekhar

For the master ball
that turned the tables
on Turner.



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ADROIT-886



ON performance, the Indian side was better than ours", said Murray Chapple, the manager of the New Zealand cricket team at the end of his side's tour in Madras.

"Ours is only an average team, weakened much by the absence of three of our star players. You have world class spinners and on home pitches favourable to them, yours is a tough side to beat. The toss mattered a lot in this series. You had the advantage of bowling last in all the three Tests", the Kiwi manager said.

Chapple said he would not consider the Indian team a better batting side than his. "You have two world class batsmen in Gavaskar and Viswanath, but the other batsmen are just average players," he said. He admitted that his side depended a lot on skipper Glenn Turner who did well in India after being not very impressive in Pakistan during the first leg of the dual tour, but pointed out that there were four other players who were proving really good batsmen. Mark Burgess and John Parker were two of them, he said.

While India's superiority in spin bowling was unquestionable, he said, New Zealand was definitely better in the seam attack. "Your seamers are very ordinary. Among the lot, I would say that Madan Lal is the best".

Asked to compare the Indian side with that of Pakistan, he said Pakistan were a better batting side. "If I am asked to select the six best batsmen in the Indian sub-continent, four of them would be from Pakistan. The other two would be of course your Gavaskar and Viswanath", Chapple said.

The New Zealand manager said that he would consider Pakistan stronger in the seam attack. While the orthodox spinners lent much strength to the Indian attack, he

India were the better team, says Kiwi manager

said, Pakistan also had a fairly good spin attack with two good leg spinners. Chapple said that he found Syed Kirmani a better wicketkeeper than his counterpart in Pakistan. But Kirmani did not compare with Farokh Engineer. Considering the quirks of the pitches and the subtle and deceptive spin employed by Indian bowlers, Kirmani did his job quite effectively, said Chapple.

The New Zealand manager said India would be a pretty difficult side to beat for any team on their home pitches. He said India should "well be the favourites for the visiting England team".

Asked whether, in view of the stresses and great strain that his players had to undergo in the whirlwind twin tours of Pakistan and India, whether he would welcome such dual tours in future, Chapple said that he would not like New Zealand to undertake such tours. Even in a tour of one country, he said, unless Test matches were spaced, players could not do

justice to their games. There should be more games other than Tests and Test matches should not be played three in a row or five in a row.

Chapple said that his players, except for Turner and a few other professionals, had not played top class cricket for six months prior to this dual tour. And, considering the different food and climate, they would have needed a longer time to get ready. But they did not have this and, hence, in the series of Test matches they had to play, they could not do as well as they could have.

Asked whether it was the strain that his players had to undergo in this swift tour that affected their on the field behaviour, Chapple said: "The behaviour of the teams in the last match (at Madras) deteriorated because of the frustration brought to bear on the teams by the incompetent umpiring throughout the series".

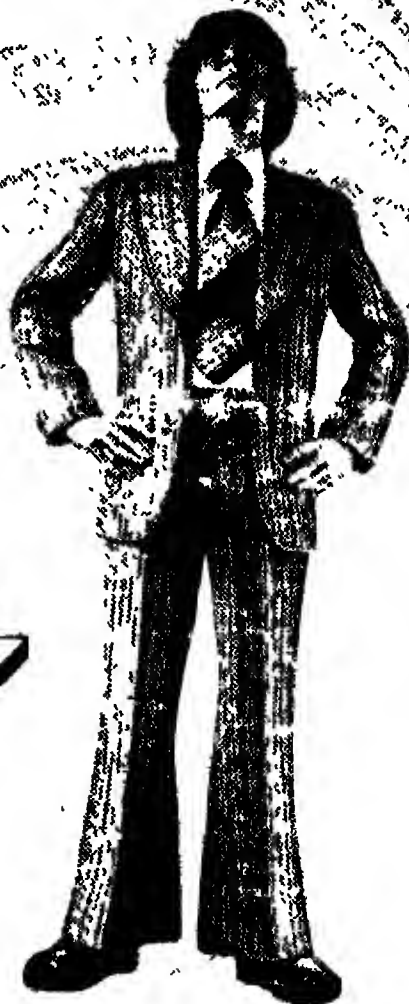
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The Indian players returning to the pavilion after routing New Zealand for 140 in the first innings at Madras. From left: Gavri, Gavaskar, Mankad, Venkat, Redi, Kirmani, Mohinder and Viswanath.

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Their tantrums weren't funny

GLENN TURNER and his men surely have made few friends during their recent tour of India. Not so much because they had little to thrill the cricket-loving millions of this country but because they showed themselves to be a surly lot who had scant respect for the umpires. Some of them, in fact, behaved like immature, ill-mannered kids.

Questioning an umpire's decisions, throwing one's cap at him or snatching it away and assorted other ugly acts are not what one would like to witness during a gentleman's game that cricket is supposed to be. Turner's men seemed to excel in them.

None probably was amused by their tantrums. Not even the Indian players, for all the camaraderie that appeared to be there between the two teams. Sunil Gavaskar, the Indian star, for one, must have found it all nauseating.

'Sunny' just could not understand how the Kiwis could go about complaining about umpiring decisions in the Test series. He said if the New Zealanders had suffered by any wrong decision, they had also benefited by other such decisions.

In sport, such favourable and un

favourable decisions tend to even out during the course of play or in the long run. The Kiwis, for example, he said, suffered by a seemingly wrong decision which went against Andy Roberts in the Bombay Test but then they benefited by two wrong decisions that favoured Parker and Burgess. Parker, he added, thrived on this and made a century.

Gavaskar said there were a few wrong decisions. But questioning the umpires or damning them is unwarranted and is in poor taste. If umpiring in this series was bad, he said, umpiring in the series against New Zealand in that country earlier this year was worse. "But then we did not throw tantrums there", he added.

The Cricket Board hosted a dinner at Hotel Connemara for the members of the Indian and New Zealand teams Sportswriters who were invited to it had to stomach an insult before they could taste the very many dishes that were there

Turner it was who chose to serve gall at the dinner. He had prepared a speech, he said, but would deliver another. His extempore effusion was anything but expected.

and surely hit the sportscribes below the belt

Turner said that the sports-writers in India had been far from helpful. He said he had been misquoted a few times by the writers, and incidents had been misrepresented. "If the bond that exists between India and New Zealand", he said, "is strained, then it will be the responsibility of the press".

Whether what Turner said was true or not, it was all in bad taste and Board officials must have been greatly irked and embarrassed. Sportswriters were greatly annoyed and considered walking out, but Ben A. secretary Ghulam Ahmed reminded them that it was the Board's dinner and not Turner's.

A few days after the dinner, New Zealand manager Chapple when asked to comment on Turner's speech, said that the New Zealand skipper had not referred to all the pressmen but only to those few persons who went about misquoting and misrepresenting the facts. He said it was a fact that because of such writers — "one of them is from Madras" the relations between the two sides had somewhat suffered.

But the point is that Turner should not have used a dinner party to vent his ire, and that too when the dinner was not being hosted by him. Turner should have used some other forum — for decorum's sake.

—SW Correspondent

Cricketers of the week-28

BIRTHS

December 6: C Washbrook
(Eng) 1914, J F Potheary (S A)
1933, F C Hayes (Eng) 1946

December 7: K I. Hutchings
(Eng) 1882, W Bardsley (Aus)
1883, J G Naele (Ind) 1902, W
Place (Eng) 1914

December 8: S M Hussain (Ind)
1902, G M Fullerton (SA) 1922,
P H Parfitt (Eng) 1936, H Kanit
kar (Ind) 1942

December 9. C. L. McCool (Aus)
1915.

December 10: I I Jones (Eng)
1941

December 11: S P Gupta (Ind)
1929, Alim-ud-Din (Pak) 1930 Sa
lim Durrani (Ind) 1934

DEATHS

December 5: K S Dulcepsinhji
(Ind) 1959

December 10. R Abel (Eng)
1936

-K ISWARA DUTT



Perhaps the worst umpiring decision went against India when Gavaskar was 'stumped' by Lees off O'Sullivan. The 'keeper had failed to gather the ball

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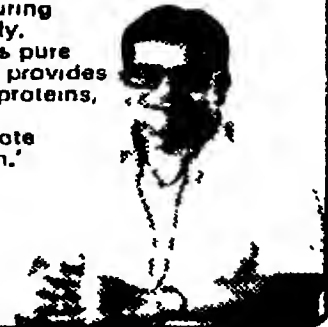
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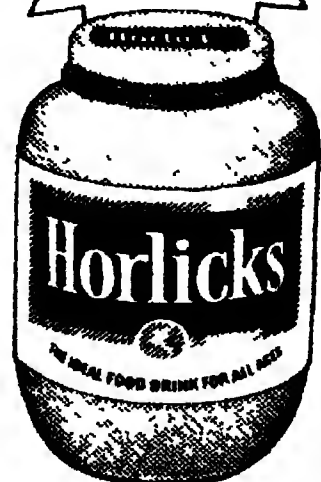
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Chapple interview

from p 19

"I do not blame the umpires who officiated in Madras. It is not fair to criticise them, for after all they were only replacements for the umpires, who were originally posted to do duty but, for some reason or the other, could not. But I would say the umpires who officiated at Bombay and Kanpur were pretty poor indeed."

The New Zealand manager took pains to make himself understood clearly, despite the fact that he was not in the best of health. "Do not think that I am criticising your umpiring because we were beaten by you. No. In Pakistan too we lost the Test series, 0-2. But I did not criticise their umpires. I found the Pakistani umpires quite satisfactory in all the Tests. In fact, I mentioned this fact to six journalists in India, but this has not been published in any paper."

Considering the amount of criticism generally heaped on local umpires by a visiting team, would he prefer neutral umpires in Test series? Yes, neutral umpires are essential, particularly when the host country could only offer umpires like the ones we have seen during this tour. I don't know whether this is possible but, if it is, then let us have neutral umpires. There has been talk now and then of the need to have neutral umpires, for example, when the MCC team visits Australia or the Indian side tours the West Indies, but nothing has been done to improve matters."

Granting that the umpiring in India was poor during this tour, would Chapple justify the jangling that his men indulged in, putting pressure on the umpires and their none-too-exemplary behaviour on the field? The New Zealand manager would not answer, rather, he said, that he could not. It was a question that should be put to skipper Turner, he said.

Chapple, a former New Zealand captain who has played in 14 Tests between 1952 and 1965, said the crowd for the Madras Test was the best, but the pitch was the worst. It was surely substandard, he said.

He said the tour was generally very pleasant. There were a lot of gifts and he and his men enjoyed the company of many friends and the time they spent in their homes. He said he was overwhelmed by the number of letters he received from cricket enthusiasts — he had tried to reply to most of them. A few letters, he said, branded his players as 'unsporting' and so on, but most of them had something good to say about his team. He was thankful to them all, Chapple said.

- SW Correspondent

Test averages

INDIA BATTING

	T	I	N	O	R	HS	100	50	Cr	St	Avg.
S M H Kirmann	3	3	—	—	196	88	—	2	9	1	65.33
G R Viswanath	3	6	1	—	324	103*	1	2	1	—	64.80
B S Bedi	3	3	1	—	91	50*	—	1	—	—	45.50
A D Gaekwad	3	5	1	—	173	77*	—	1	1	—	43.25
S M Gavaskar	3	6	—	—	259	119	1	1	3	—	43.16
B P Patel	3	5	1	—	172	82	—	1	3	—	43.00
M Amarnath	3	6	—	—	229	70	—	2	6	—	38.16
A V Mankad	3	5	1	—	128	50	—	1	4	—	32.00
S Venkatraghavan	3	3	—	—	94	64	—	1	7	—	31.33
K Ghavri	2	2	—	—	45	37	—	—	2	—	22.50
S Madan Lal	1	2	1	—	16	8*	—	—	1	—	16.00
B S Chandra	3	3	3	—	31	20*	—	—	3	—	—

CENTURIES 119 by Gavaskar at Bombay, 103* by Viswanath at Kanpur

CENTURY PARTNERSHIPS (4) 163* (3rd wicket) Gaekwad and Viswanath at Kanpur, 120 (1st wicket) Gavaskar and Gaekwad at Bombay, 114 (2nd wicket) Gavaskar and Amarnath at Kanpur, 105 (9th wicket) Kirmann and Bedi at Bombay

SUBSTITUTE CATCHES Ghavri at Bombay and Madan Lal at Madras took one catch each

BOWLING

	B	M	R	W	Best	Swi	Avg
Bedi	1219	91	490	22	5/27	2	13.18
Chandrasekhar	1009	47	391	17	4/27	—	23.00
Ghavri	214	12	97	4	2/32	—	21.5
Venkatraghavan	924	57	308	11	3/79	—	23.00
Madan Lal	90	2	40	1	1/13	—	40.00
Amarnath	216	9	93	0	—	—	—

5 WICKETS IN AN INNINGS 5 for 27 at Bombay and 5 for 48 at Madras, both by Bedi

NEW ZEALAND BATTING

	T	I	N	O	R	HS	100	50	Cr	St	Avg
C M Turner	3	6	—	—	261	113	1	1	2	—	43.50
J M Parker	3	6	—	—	209	104	1	—	3	—	34.83
K O Collinge	1	2	—	—	62	36	—	—	—	—	31.00
M G Burgess	3	6	—	—	175	54	—	1	2	—	29.16
W Lees	3	6	1	—	131	49*	—	—	2	3	26.20
A D C Roberts	3	6	1	—	112	84*	—	1	1	—	22.40
D R O'Sullivan	3	6	2	—	69	23*	—	—	1	—	17.25
N M Parker	2	4	—	—	47	18	—	—	2	—	11.75
G P Howarth	2	4	—	—	14	19	—	—	—	—	11.00
R J Hadlee	3	6	—	—	60	21	—	—	1	—	10.00
B L Cairns	2	4	1	—	26	12	—	—	2	—	8.66
P J Petherick	3	5	2	—	15	13	—	—	3	—	5.00
J F M Morrison	1	2	—	—	8	7	—	—	1	—	4.00
C N Troup	1	1	—	—	0	0	—	—	1	—	—

CENTURIES 113 by Turner at Kanpur, 104 by John Parker at Bombay

CENTURY PARTNERSHIPS (2) 106 (2nd wicket) Turner and John Parker at Bombay, 106 (3rd wicket) Turner and Burgess at Kanpur

SUBSTITUTE CATCHES Anderson at Bombay and Collinge at Madras took one catch each

BOWLING

	B	M	R	W	Best	Swi	Avg
Cairns	499	21	180	7	3/55	1	25.71
Hadlee	762	18	137	13	4/95	—	33.61
Petherick	802	27	344	9	3/90	—	42.66
Collinge	162	7	86	2	2/15	—	13.00
O'Sullivan	942	42	396	6	3/125	—	66.00
Troup	181	7	116	1	1/69	—	116.00
Roberts	300	11	129	1	1/53	—	129.00
Howarth	48	1	30	0	—	—	—

5 WICKETS IN AN INNINGS 5 for 55 by Cairns at Madras

- BB MAMA



Mark Burgess shoulders arms and is bowled off his pads by Bedi in the first innings



John Pa
behin





bat in salute as he is caught
off Chandra on the final day



Anshuman Gawkwad is bowled by Hadlee . . . the
stump being broken in the process

The Madras Test

Pics : BALAJI PHOTOGRAPHS

Extreme left: Jubilation as Turner is caught by
Kurmani off Chandra in the Kiwis first innings
Left: Venkat rolls over and snaps up Warren Lees
off Bedi, one of his four catches

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Buzzing Around

by BUSYBEE

THE main question agitating the minds of cricket followers is who will be the reserves for the coming series of Tests against England. I was talking to a selector about this at Madras airport, just before he left for a business trip to Europe. "Yes," said the selector, "for the first Test we are considering Chauhan, Sharma and Bharat Reddy as reserves. And, in case a substitute fielder is required during the match, we will send in Ramnath Parker."

"Excellent," I said.

"We will retain Sharma as a reserve in the second Test, since I am sure we will find him very satisfactory. But, instead of Chauhan, we will have Ghavri as a reserve. And we may have Prasanna as a twelfth man, just so that he can prove his worth," said the selector.

"I am glad to hear that," I said.

"Of course," he said, "we cannot give Prasanna a chance as a reserve in more than one Test. We will have to replace him by Madan Lal, unless the entire selection committee decides to persist with Ghavri as a reserve."

"Quite," I said.

"Selecting reserves for a match is always a difficult task," said the selector. "There are so many promising candidates, and one cannot satisfy everybody. We will not be able to bring in Vengsarkar as a reserve until the third Test and, perhaps, even the fourth. I am sure you will understand that."

"I understand," I said.

"If I cannot return to India in time for the selection of reserves for the third Test, I will give my selections on telephone," the selector said. "Every reserve will be judged strictly on his performance as a reserve in the previous Test."

"Good," I said.

"The safest thing to do would be to have Ashok Mankad, Solkar and Krishnamurthi. You cannot go wrong with these three stalwarts as numbers twelve, thirteen and fourteen," he said.

"Yes," I said.

"And if a man does not turn out to be in form when he is selected as a reserve, the only thing to do is to remove him from the reserve list immediately," the selector said.

"Right," I said.

"You so-called experts in the newspapers may want Vengsarkar as a reserve in all the Tests, but selectors have to show more responsibility than that," he said. "At best, we may have him in the third Test and the final Test. But I cannot commit myself to that."

"No," I said.

"If you want to quote me, one thing you can say on my behalf and on behalf of the entire selection committee: that both Karan Ghavri and Madan Lal will be given equal opportunities to prove themselves as reserves. The rest is up to them."

"Fair enough," I said.

"And you can also say that every effort will be made to try out as many young players as possible as reserves," he said.

"Yes," I said. "And could you tell me who you are likely to select for the team proper?"

"Does it matter?" said the selector, as he walked out to board the plane.



THE BERRY SARBADHIKARY COLUMN

Sport and cash

INDIA's air today is full of cricket. But let this be the preserve of those on the spot. A few comments though not only in cricket but other sports, not only in India but elsewhere, too.

India is such a vast country and the whims of John Pluvius so unpredictable that while there is, say, a draught in North India, the South gets flooded. At other levels, including wars on our hands, sport can go on, indeed has gone on. Thus, at the time of the Chinese invasion in 1962 of North-East India, not far away, at the Eden Gardens, Calcutta, I recall doing running commentary on a National Defence Fund (NDF) match. So was I, on a Ranji Trophy match at Patna, during the actual Bangladesh Liberation War, in which India was deeply involved.

Neither our cricket nor our tennis administrators are "soothsayers". As such, they could not be expected to foresee the very heavy rains, and "unprecedented" floods that greatly affected the third and final Test between New Zealand and India at Madras, and the Grand Prix at Bangalore. Obviously, tennis will lose a lot, for various reasons, what with some famous players like Geoff Masters from abroad crying off, the defending champion, our own Vijay Amritraj, unable to take part owing to severe back-strain. And then came the rains! The home organisers must have been a harried lot.

And that, despite all the rains and terrific floods at Madras, play was possible on the second day of the Test at the Chidambaram Stadium (Chepauk), was, reportedly, due to the drainage system all round the ground, as at Lord's. But, then, M. A. Chidambaram — "MAC" to his friends — loves to do everything "in style", a thoughtful precaution as well. And yet, without bargaining for the tremendous flood that swept Madras, it was unsurprising that there was rain in November at Madras. It often rains which is why they always prefer "Pongal" — time for a Test as the safest. But what can one do, with eight Tests in a short period on one's hands!

And yet there were some silver linings as, say, Sashi Menon's making the Grand Prix final after taking toll of Pakistani ace, Haroon

Rahim though Menon went down tamely to the indisposed Australian, Kim Warwick who won a Grand Prix for the first time in his career. Incidentally, Haroon's defeat was rather inexplicable. Some years ago at Patna, in a Davis Cup tie between Pakistan and India, after being "top of the world", I saw him lose hopelessly to Jaidip Mukerjee, as non-playing captain, the great Indian left-hander of yore, Iftikhar Ahmed poured gallons of ice-water over Haroon's head, but to no effect. Did Haroon take some "pep" pills as an American woman charged later?

It is good that, at long last, Bedi has been named India's captain for all five Tests against England in the ensuing series. Not being on tenterhooks all the time, this will give Bedi greater confidence, as also make for greater discipline in the team which, happily, seems to be already there. Further, the hints from the grapevine that Bedi was being balked from his automatic choice as captain was owing to his taking the lead in forming a "Players' Association" in Indian cricket was not favourably looked upon by the Board, have been somewhat scotched.

Indeed, why not a Players' Association? After all, it is they who draw the crowds who, in turn, fill the Board's coffers, mostly netting the Board and the constituent Associations huge profits. Besides, Bedi is now a thorough professional in English cricket, and it is natural for him to try and better the prospects of his teammates. True, Indian cricket is still amateur, as also the fact that the Board have increased the Test players' "fees" somewhat. But that is like a drop in an ocean. The analogy may not be perfect, as Sir Frank Worrell was a professional all the way. At a party in the now rain-hit and flood-ravaged Madras, someone asked Worrell what did he do "I play cricket", "But Mr Worrell, what do you", and pat came the reply "I play more cricket". On the eve of West Indies' tour of England when his captaincy was being questioned in the Eastern Caribbean, Worrell told me in Kingston, that if he was invited "I would like to be paid, and paid well".

This last may not quite apply to

Indian cricketers, but would fit the five Pak top professional cricketers including the original choice as captain, Mushraaq Mohammad, like a glove. As is well known, they threatened the Pakistan Board that, unless they were offered better terms than the Board did, they would pull out of the five-month long tour of Australia and the West Indies. Perhaps they were too sure of themselves, certainly hasty, for such an ultimatum could not possibly be stomachied by any authority; specially when the terms were not all that meagre, and Pakistan Board president, Abdul Hafeez Kardar made it clear, that their financial "constraints" would not just permit any further increase. The dissenting players went over Kardar's head and made an appeal to the Federal Minister for Sports.

And what was the Board's reaction? Reportedly, Kardar disapproved the Punjab Cricket Association without assigning any reason with their president "known as 'anti Kardar'", stripped Mushraaq of the captaincy bringing in Intikhab Ali instead, banned all the six players including the non-"pro" Wasim Bari, and announced that the tour would go on as an "international commitment". Now, the young professionals might have been hasty and indulged in indiscretions. But is that any reason why the veteran Kardar should have lost his head totally? Shame of shames, the Port of Spain (Trinidad) businessmen cricket-fans offered to pay the shortfall for the six players involved in the dispute!

But, then, Kardar has always shown streaks of "dictatorship", with little patience, which his many acts of commission and omission over long years would prove. Fortunately, the Federal sports minister Pirzada intervened, and one hopes that peace will return to Pakistan cricket which is one of the best in the world today. But, again, when the dust was settling down Mushraaq's challenging statement from England about a formal "apology" does not help. Everybody, including Kardar, has his "pride" — and all cricket lovers will hope for the best.

Heard this one?

George was chuckling.

"Harry's wife does embarrass him. We were talking about the cricket coach and she thought it had four wheels!"

His wife looked doubtful.

"Well, how many has it got?"

Abbas axed again



THE Basketball Federation of India's selectors have done it again! The name of Abbas Moontasir does not find a place in the list of probabilities chosen for the Quaid-e-Azam centenary celebration tournament to be held in Lahore.

And this is not the first time that such shabby treatment has been meted out to Abbas—hailed as the greatest ever to appear on the horizon of Indian basketball. In 1971, when he was the current Arjuna award winner, he was dropped from the squad for the sixth Asian Championship held in Tokyo.

Then again last year, his name did not appear among the probabilities for the eighth Asian Championship at Bangkok. Then the steering committee of the BFI realised the blunder committed by the selectors and a late call was given to Abbas to join the coaching camp at Patiala. To top it all, he was appointed captain of the Indian team! India gave its best ever performance at Bangkok and stood fourth in Asia. The Indian basketball team was adjudged the best team from India for 1975 by the Sports Journalists' Association of Bombay.

The selection trials for the Quaid-e-Azam tournament were

held in New Delhi on November 12, 13 and 14. This information reached the Western Railway headquarters in Bombay on November 12. The next morning Abbas along with his Western Railway teammates Riaz Ahmed and Gulam Rasool started for New Delhi.

They had earlier sent a telegram to BFI honorary general secretary R K Kaushik intimating him that they were coming. When they reached the venue of the trials on the 14th morning with bag and baggage, the last of the trials had just got over.

The selectors refused to consider them for the selection, saying that they were late. While the selectors were right in their contention, the fact remains that Abbas can walk like the Indian team. It is only a formality for him to take part in any selection trial. That he was late for the trials was not deliberate on his part nor was it any of his doing.

Why then should he be punished? Besides, the selectors were aware of his arrival through the telegram sent by him. One cannot help but feel that the selectors, who are unanimous in declaring Abbas an all time great, have other considerations at heart instead of the best interests of the game.

While the steering committee of the BFI had earlier rectified the blunder committed by the selectors, this is an appeal to the officials of BFI to come to the rescue of Indian basketball once more.

It is not yet too late. It will be in the fitness of things if Abbas leads the Indian team to the Quaid-e-Azam centenary celebration tournament and without him the Indian team should not be allowed to go to Pakistan.

Renee banned

AFRICA's transsexual tennis player, Dr Renee Richards, has been banned from Australia's major championships.

The Lawn Tennis Association of Australia has rewritten tournament entry forms which now bar Dr Richards.

A clause has been included for women's championships which requires competitors to have been born female.

There is also an entry agreement to undergo a chromosome test if requested.

How much do you know?

by HOSEY MISTRY

1. If a hockey team takes the field with sticks weighing from 10 ounces to 30 ounces, what should the umpire do?
2. Can castling in chess be done if there is any piece between the Rook involved in the move and the King?
3. How should the lifter grip the bar at the commencement of the two hands snatch lift?
4. How many players are required for a ball badminton match?
5. Can the goal post and the cross bar in football be elliptical in shape?
6. During which races in the national athletic championships programme can the athletes be served refreshments?
7. What should be the depth of the water for a water-polo match?

ANSWERS

1. Reject all sticks weighing less than 12 ounces or more than 28 ounces?
2. No
3. Palm downwards
4. Ten, Five on each side
5. Yes. They can also be square, rectangular, round or half round in shape
6. The marathon and the 50,000 m walk
7. It shall not be less than 1.8 metres



That urge to sail again

By Sea Bird

"I MUST do down to the sea again, to the open sea and the sky, And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer me by"

So sang John Masefield in his famous poem "Sea Fever". That same sea fever will soon grip Bombay's sailing buffs, although there will be more than mere stars to guide the competitors around and over the 3-mile course as the boats are set afloat and the sails fastened, as the spinnakers balloon out and over 50 youngsters from about 10 countries vie for the honours in the World Cadet Class Yachting Championships which will commence off Bombay Harbour on...

This is a unique honour that has come India's way, for never before has a world championship ever been hosted by a non-European country. All the leading sailing contenders, including UK, Holland, Belgium and Australia will be there. So too will be Argentina, Singapore and Yugoslavia, with final replies still awaited from Sri Lanka and Pakistan, two of the very few Asian countries to have taken to the sport of sailing.

The championships will be conducted by the Indian National Cadet Class Association. All the visiting teams will be housed at the

Association's nerve-centre, the Training Ship Jawahar, a unique frigate built of stone and mortar which affords youngsters a perfect opportunity to master the arts of seamanship.

There will be several firsts to India's credit during the championship. For the first time, all the boats will be provided by the hosts. The Cadet Class boat is a special type of sailing vessel designed by Jack Holt specifically for youngsters under 18. It is the only junior boat officially recognised by the International Yacht Racing Union. The international body feared that several youngsters might be hard-pressed to make the trip to far-off

India. The cost of the transportation of the boats would itself account for a tidy sum. To obviate this problem, the INCCA hit upon the idea of providing every competitor with a uniformly built fibre glass cadet class boat — to the immense satisfaction and whole-hearted approval of the world body — and this, it is hoped, will make competition fairer and keener.

The championship will be decided over a series of nine races, the winner being the one who aggregates the last points. India will be fielding eight teams — a team consists of helmsman and crew — whilst most of the other countries

have a maximum of three teams in the fray.

The Indian contingent consists of several youngsters still under 14 years old, to enable them to get a taste of international competition so that they can represent the country for at least another four years. The youngest participant, however, is a ten year-old crew from England.

Although India took to international competition only a few years ago, so rapid has been the progress since, that many knowledgeable tip the strong Indian contingent to bag the honours in the forthcoming meet, although both the English and Dutch teams are very experienced ones and will take some beating.

The graph of India's performance in the World's since our debut in Yugoslavia in 1972, when we ended up in 21st place out of 24, has shown a constant upward trend. The 1973 Holland World's saw the Indians emerging 17th and the experience gathered in the earlier two championships clearly revealed itself as India surprised quite a few better-fancied nations whilst placing 11th in the 1975 Championships in Italy. This time out, the Indian lads have the advantage of being in familiar waters and will no doubt be more than mere push-overs in the keen tussle for the top honours.

Figures are fun

Follow 'em with BBM

A rare and most coveted Test record

The following is the complete list in chronological order —

					Lowest Score	100s	50s	Match Result
England	475	v Aus	(Melbourne)	1894-95	11	1	1	Eng won
South Africa	385	v Eng	(Johannesburg)	1905-06	10	1	1	SA won
England	636	v Aus	(Sydney)	1928-29	11	1	2	Eng won
South Africa	358	v Aus	(Melbourne)	1931-32	10*	1	—	SA lost
Australia	575-8d	v Ind	(Melbourne)	1947-48	11	1	3	Aus won
India	397	v Pak	(Calcutta)	1952-53	11	1	1	Drawn
India	359	v NZ	(Dunedin)	1967-68	12	—	2	Ind won
India	524-9d	v NZ	(Kanpur)	1976-77	10*	—	6	Drawn

THE remarkable feat of all the batsmen in a team reaching double figures in the course of a single innings is one of the rarest and most coveted of Test records.

So far, in a total of 786 Tests till November 23, it has been accomplished on only eight occasions, and India has the honour of being the only country to do so thrice, England and South Africa having each done it twice, and Australia once. The West Indies, New Zealand and Pakistan have not done it in Test cricket.

Women dominate

COMPETENTLY organised as usual this year's Inter Railway Athletic Championships was more or less dominated by women competitors who were responsible for setting up eight of the ten new records rewritten during the three-day meet.

The country's top athlete, all-rounder Anusuya Bai was understandably the pick of the lot breaking three records in the first two days and generally finishing ahead in other events to help Southern Railway retain the women's team title.

On the opening day Anusuya Bai bettered the discus mark with a distance of 44.42 M. However, this was a below par performance. She has done better at the national level. On the second day she and Srirupa Chatterjee, a former Inter-Railway and Open meet sprint champion, ran a splendid race in the 100 metres, Anusuya breaking the record and Srirupa equalling it. They clocked 12.2 and 12.3 seconds respectively. Later Anusuya ran almost alone as it were to improve upon a 18 year old mark in the 400 metres. The name to be re-

moved from the record books was that of the great Stephanie D'Souza who had set a record of 59.6 sec in 1958. Anusuya clocked 59.0 sec.

Another international, Geeta Zutshi was also in the limelight when she clocked 2.14.2 with a start to finish lead in the 800 metres. J. Naresh and S. Halder who came second and third respectively also came within the old mark of 2.23.2 set by Southern Railway's Visalakshi in 1974.

Miss Zutshi, however, could not repeat her performance in the longer 1,500 metres event. Though she broke the old record she was only second. The faster girl here was national champion Jalaja Naresh.

Central Railway's Gurbans Kaur had to exert a lot to claim the javelin throw title with a throw of 40.30 while V. Mary, making a come back after a long absence, picked the second spot. Gurbans Kaur's effort was of course a record. Endowed with a bunch of steady runners, Eastern Railway's foursome improved upon the old mark of 4.10.8 by nearly 5 seconds while winning the 4 x 400 metres



Bhim Singh (95) and Kulbir at the water jump of the steeplechase.

relay on the first day. They clocked 4:05.9 sec.

Southern Railway's other promising athlete was Angel Mary who won both the high jump and the long jump events, the former in a new record height of 1.54 metres. She made a gallant attempt to further improve upon it but failed all her three jumps at 1.56 metres.

In the men's section the country's top sprinter, Gnanasekaran, duly won both the 100 and 200 metres, the shorter distance in 10.4 seconds, the fastest time recorded for this event in recent years. On this performance he was awarded the Marshal Tito Gold Medal for the best athlete of the meet. In the 200 metres he outpaced the holder, K. Natarajan, also of Southern Railway.

Babadin, Northern Railway's international aid well by his team winning the 800 metres in a record time of 1.51.4 as against the 11-year old mark of 1.51.8 set by the late Jarnail Singh and then went on to claim the quarter-mile in a fine finish, and climaxed his good deeds by running a spectacular final lap to win the 4 x 400 metres relay for his team. This was a crucial win for Northern Railway as it helped them to tie for the team championships with Southern Rail-



Angel Mary Joseph winning the long jump. She also won the high jump with a new record.

way, holders for the past six years. Both teams totalled 136 points each.

The marathon men in all fairness must get a mention too. F Alphanso of Western Railway, a comparative newcomer to this part surprised a few well known figures by winning the gruelling event in 2 hrs 34 05 6.

Finally at the prizes and two awards quite unconnected with the meet but received much applause was the retaining of the Kaul Gold Cup, symbol of supremacy in sports in the Railways, by Eastern, and the Indian Railway Sportsman of the Year Cup by hockey star V. J. Phillips.

—SW Correspondent



Top: Babadun Northern's hero, winning the 400 metres



Right: Anusuya Bai and Srirupa Chatterjee at the 200 metres finish

Bottom: First baton change in the 4 x 100 metres relay



खेलकूद के प्रेमियों को डायमंड को भेंट



प्रत्येक
पुस्तक में खेल
की विधि चित्र
देकर समझायी गयी हैं
प्रत्येक पुस्तक का मूल्य दो रुपये



खेल कूद सीरीज:

- क्रिकेट कैसे खेलें
- हाकी कैसे खेलें
- फुटबाल वालीबाल कैसे खेलें
- टेनिस, टेबल टेनिस कैसे खेलें
- जूडो कैराटे कैसे खेलें
- शतरंज कैसे खेलें
- बैडमिंटन व बास्केट बाल कैसे खेलें
- जिमनास्टिक तथा शारीरिक व्यायाम कैसे करें
- कबड्डी तथा अन्य भारतीय खेल कैसे खेलें
- ताश व कैरम कैसे खेलें

फिल्मी गीतमाला सीरीज :

- लता के नगमे
- रफी के नगमें
- किशोर के नगमे
- मुकेश के नगमे
- हेमन्त व मन्नाडे के नगमे
- भूले बिसरे फिल्मी नगमे
- फिल्मी राष्ट्रीय व भक्ति गीत
- आशा भोसलें व महेन्द्र कपूर के नगमे
- चुने हुए नये फिल्मी नगमे

जोक्स सीरीज :

- प्रेमी-प्रेमिकाओं के जोक्स
- पति-पत्नी के जोक्स
- चटपटे जोक्स
- चुने हुए जोक्स
- पार्टी जोक्स
- मिडनाईट जोक्स
- बच्चों के जोक्स
- मॉडर्न जोक्स
- बड़े आदमियों के जोक्स
- अकबर बीरबल के जोक्स
- फिल्मी जोक्स

कुकरी सीरीज:

- शाकाहारी भोजन पकाईये खाईये
- मासाहारी भोजन "
- काटीनेंटल डिशज "
- ग्रन्थार, मुरब्बे, चटनियां

बाल जासूसी उषन्यास:

- काला हीरा
- लक्ष्मि मिश्वारी
- जिन्दा लाश
- जंग के बेटे
- आशुतोष का सांप
- मानवता के दशमन

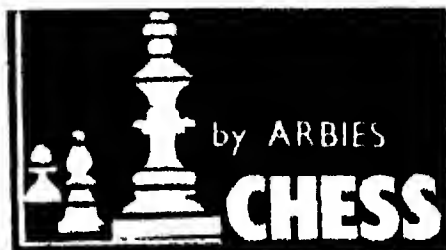
लोक कथा माला.

- बंगाल की लोक कथाएं
- महाराष्ट्र की लोक कथाएं
- राजस्थान की लोक कथाएं
- नीला जहर (हीरा पन्ना सीरीज)
- धमाके (हीरा पन्ना सीरीज)

१० रुपये की पुस्तकें मंगवाने पर पोस्टेज फ्री

डायमंड की पुस्तकें निकट के बुकस्टालो से लें या इस पते से मंगवायें

पंजाबी पुस्तक भंडार, दरिया कलां दिल्ली-६



BOTH players are intent on the same combination. Black plans to sacrifice the exchange for King side play and White impels him on to it. Then White quietly gives back the exchange frustrating Black's plan and emerging with (Las Palmas, 1976)

ENGLISH OPENING

White . Portisch

Black . Larsen

Las Palmas, 1976)

1. Qb4, Nxb3 2. Qb3, Pk3 (a) 3. Nxb3, Bb5 (b) 4. Qb2, 00 (c) 5. PQR3, BxN 6. QxB, PQ3 (d) 7. PQN4, PK4 8. BN2, NB3 9. PK3, NK5 10. QB2, PKB4 11. BK2, PQR4 (e) 12. PQ3, NB3, 13. PN5, NK2 14. PBI (f) PQN3 15. PXP, PXP 16. RB1, BN2 17. 00 (g) RB1 18. QN1, QQ2 19. PQR4, NN3 20. BK3, KR1 (h) 21. NQ2, NK5 22. PB3, NQ4 23

RxR, RxR 24. NB4, RxN1 (i) 25. PxR, NxKP 26. QQ3! (j) NxR 27. BxN, PQ4 28. PxP, BxP 29. QK31, PK5? (k) 31. PxP, BxP 31. QxP, PR3 32. QQ6, QB1? 33. BN21, KR2 34. QK7, QKN1 35. QxN, UR7 36. QB2, QxP 37. QR7, Black resigns.

(a) An invitation to Nimzo-Indian 3. PQ4, BN5.

(b) An interesting variation after 3... PQN3 is 4. PK4, DN2 5. BQ3, PB4 6. PK5, NN5 7. 00, PQ3 8. BK4! (Smejkal Gulko, Lrean 1976)

(c) 4... PB4 is often played the continuation being: 5. PKN3, NB3 6. BN2, 00 7. 00, QK2 8. RQ1, BxN 9. QxB, PK4 (Vaganyan-Romanishin, USSR Ch. 1975).

(d) 6... PQN3 7. PKN3, BN2 8. BN2, PQ4, 9. PQ4, QPxP was played in Vaganyan-Korchnoy, Alekhine Memorial Tournament 1975

(e) To forestall PQR4-5 with due preparation by White against Queen's fianchetto.

(f) But now this move forces a weakening of Black's Q-side Pawn structure.

(g) 17. QB7 achieves nothing after because of the reply 17... RQ4

(h) 20... KRK1 followed by PQ4 seems natural, but Larsen has other plans

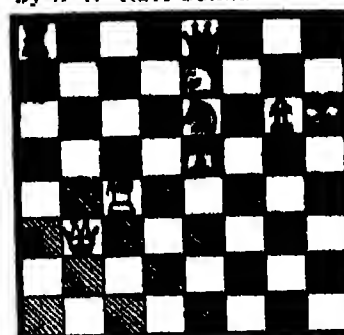
(i) This exchange sacrifice is forced, but Black has planned for it.

(j) White returns the exchange rather than being confined to a passive position by RB2. Though temporarily a Pawn down he has a good chance of recovering it and reaching a winning end game.

(k) A blunder. He could have tried to hold on the 29... QQ2 though after 30. BN2 (not 30. QN5, QB6!) NN3 31. PR4 it is difficult to meet the threat to the Black KP and eventually to his QNP.

PROBLEM

By S N Ravi Sankar :



White : Kh6, Qb3, Rc4; N7; P6.
Black : Kh8; Qe8, Re8; Ne6; Pe5.
White to play and mate in 4.

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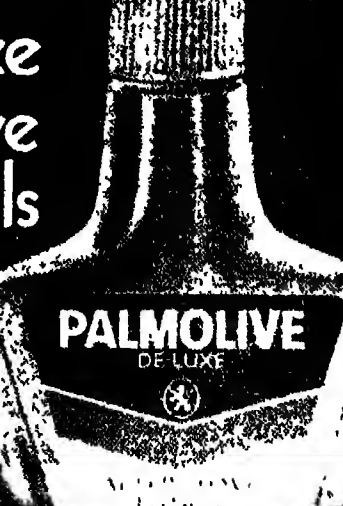
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Master Plan for Sport

Lack of interest

THE main reason for the failure of our sportsmen is due to lack of modern scientific training and facilities. The other main factor being the lack of interest in sports in the younger generation of this country.

Therefore, sports should be made a part of our educational system from primary to university level. We should catch young and talented youngsters in the age group of 8 and 16 and they should be given vigorous training at government cost. Modern training facilities should be provided in all schools and colleges for this purpose.

For this purpose, I would like to suggest that government start a sports development fund by collecting 5 per cent of the salary of every government employee and 1 per cent of the income of private organisations. The expenses to train prospective youngsters.

Private industrialists and businessmen should be asked to contribute a certain percentage of their annual income to the cause of allround development of sports in the country.

—S M Joseph (Bangalore)

To each his own

TO develop sports activities on a scientific basis emphasis should be placed on the following points:

A study should be conducted all over India to find out the most suitable game in a particular region. Then sufficient priority should be given for the development of that game. There is no point in Kerala continuing to play cricket or Gujarat playing football. All factors like the stage of development of the game in the region, climate, nature etc. should be taken into consideration while fixing the priority.

In cities like Bombay or Calcutta where the paucity of playgrounds is the main hurdle in getting mass involvement in sports activities priority should be given for development of indoor games. With more and more playgrounds being encroached upon by private official agencies for construction purposes the government in future while approving plans for construction of residential flats should insist that provision has been made for recreational facilities also.

Industries and business houses should play an important role in development of sports activities. While granting an industrial licence the government should stipu-

late that the industry concerned should have its own playgrounds also. There is no point in recruiting players when the concerns cannot provide facilities to improve the standard of their players.

The apathy of parents towards sports activities should change. This will happen only when they realise that proficiency in sports will be an important criterion for getting jobs/entry to higher studies/institutions. A higher percentage of seats should be reserved for men of proven ability in professional institutions and to encourage them the public private partnership.

Selection should be conducted at a lower level so that talented players in rural areas will not be neglected. This should be followed by a concerted search for talent and a scheme for coaching them.

Coaching should be made a full-time job. A dedicated employee of government should be sent to the nationalised sports centres. Among the weaker sections of the community in a big city like Bombay, if they can adopt sports, sports bodies to assist such players at the cost it will give a boost to sports activities.

Discipline should be taught to players who fail to discipline themselves. They are called upon to do so by the National Sports bodies who are not backed by people who are not backed by Government should not doubt their integrity.

Send good coaches abroad for special training and to keep them in touch with the latest in other countries. Rather than sending our own teams abroad teams from other countries should be invited to play in our country as well as the job will get an opportunity for the best players of the country.

—A Rajagopalalan (Cochin)

Climate to blame?

It is well known that our sportsmen are poor. With 15 per cent of the world population we have only 1 per cent in as medal winners. Why is this?

Our climate is not suitable for hard physical effort. In our country, our diet is spicy. A sportsman burns about 3000 calories per day and must get compensating food value.

The paucity of playgrounds. Existing grounds are not properly maintained and are being encroached.

Highly skilled sports equipment is not readily available. Though the equipment is good but it is not used.

The Indian way of life is not ruth-

less, hardly ambitious, abhors hard work and is of poor physique.

There is acute shortage of qualified coaches. Existing coaches do not get good jobs.

Sports bodies are faction-ridden, full of petty politics and are mainly interested in acquiring personal glory.

Our teachers, including directors of physical education are disinterested. They are neither present at practice nor during matches. Students have to fend for themselves.

Parents don't encourage children to play at cost of studies.

How to improve?

Short term measures

(a) Remove all duty on sports equipment, to be within reach. (b) Conserve, maintain and improve existing grounds. (c) Concentrate on proved talents, provide them with good coaching, balanced diet and reasonable job prospects. (d) At all costs ensure strict discipline. (e) Entertainment tax earned by sports be ploughed back. (f) National teams be selected, cleared by the government and kitted six months in advance. They should be trained systematically. (g) At selection discipline and team spirit be considered. (h) Start with sports, requiring least equipment. (i) Private and public sectors be given incentive to enter young team. (k) Provide liberal sports grant. (l) Give lucrative remuneration to qualified coaches.

Long term measures will take time to implement and results will appear later. The basic principle is to make millions play and with a wider base, provide the country not only world champions but vastly improved national health.

(a) The government should produce quality sports goods and sell them cheap. (b) Prepare and maintain additional playgrounds. Stadium mania be curbed. (c) Encourage primary school students to play games. Provide them with coaches, equipment, competitions and incentives. (d) Upgrade the status of education minister at the centre and have sports minister at state level. (e) Revamp and revitalise sports bodies. Keep sports out of courts and government should empower itself to dismiss an errand body and employ its caretaker team. (f) Monetary incentive be given to coaches for having produced players for various teams. (g) Provide monetary incentives to firms to maintain good young teams. (h) Educate masses on advantages of outdoor life and playing games in particular. (i) Provide financial security to retired eminent sportsmen. (k) Improve standards of national diet. (l) Instil in National sportsmen ruthless will to win within bounds of sportsmanship.

—Major V D Gupte
(Ahmednagar)

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— by JIMMY MEHTA.

A LOT has been said about "pass" being the most neglected action at the bridge table. There is many a bid thoughtlessly made that brings in little more than the pleasure of hearing one's voice — an overcall on an anaemic suit, for instance, when the hand obviously belongs to the opposition, attracting perhaps a damaging opening lead and tipping one's hand in the process. But yet I feel it pays to get in, particularly with an opening bid. Most bidding systems are not defensively oriented and on balance a judicious use of light opening bids gains more than it loses.

Take a look at this hand from the 1974 Bermuda Bowl.

The Americans were facing Brazil.

1 W Vulnerable

K 8 6 5
Q 8 6 5
9 7 4
8 5

N

A 2 J 4 3
J 4 3 2 A 10
A 6 5 W E K Q J 10 3 2
A 9 7 6 4 2

S

Q 10 9 7
K 9 7
8
K Q J 10 3

Branco for Brazil decided to pass as dealer on the South cards and the American E/W pair had a free run to the lay-down "3 NT".

In the other room Hamman for North America decided to open "1 spade" on the South cards and the auction proceeded.

S	W	N	E
(Hamman)	(Cintra)	(Wolff)	(Fonseca)
1 S	Dbl.	2 S	4 D
Pass	5 D	—	—

Result Down one

Perhaps Fonseca's bid of "4 D" is inferior to a spade cue bid but was it not difficult for him to visualise a spade check with his partner in addition to the Diamond Ace? The American bidding certainly created problems.

In fact, if North had dared a pre-emptive raise to "3 spades" there was virtually no way for

Brazil to land on its feet. "3 NT" becomes unreachable and a penalty double of "3 Spades" nets a pittance.

Branco was no doubt deterred by his inability to open "1 Club" (playing the strong club) but Hamman's lack of inhibition raked in the chips.

The lay-out of last week's hand from the Dasgupta Bhavanipur match was this:

1976			
9 xxx			
J			
A 10 9 x			
N			
10			K Q 8 x x x
J x			K Q x
x x x x x	W	F	K 10 x
Q J x x x			x
S			
A x			
A 10 x x			
A Q x x			
K 8 x			

As Milanmohan Roy points out, in his letter to me, the hand is makeable in a number of ways but he is eager to know the best line on a single-dummy basis. I am sure a player of Roy's calibre has worked out that declarer's best bet after the natural play to trick one (spade ten, Knave, Queen, Ace) is to duck a heart.

Intending to play East for two hearts and the Diamond King, but trying to cater also for three hearts

with East, declarer must plan to set up a spade winner in dummy as a parking place for his club loser. Observe what happens after a heart duck at trick two. Say East wins, cashes S K and returns a spade. Declarer ditches his club and has only to read the trump position to get home. East does better not to cash his spade. Say he returns a diamond. Declarer finesses and exits with a spade. East wins with the S 8 and returns the King (best). South ruffs, is overruled by West who must return a Diamond which is ruffed in dummy. Spade J is cashed ditching a club, trumps drawn finessing East's King and later catching West in a minor-suit squeeze. Probably a club return from East is even better but South can still get home. He wins in dummy, finesses Diamonds, cashes the Ace, ruffs a Diamond in dummy, heart to the Ace and the last Diamond ruffed. Eventually if East declines to overruff he is thrown in with a trump to set up dummy's spade knave. On a heart return at trick three, declarer merely ruffs out two diamonds without a finesse establishing a spade for a Club discard.

Declarer is required to judge East's distribution, against best defence.

As the cards lie, even the very simple line of eliminating the minor suits and throwing East in with a trump, succeeds.

RECORD BOOK.

ON June 16, 1951, a slim, rather pallid looking Londoner entered for his first marathon race — 26 miles 385 yards. It was the famous Polytechnic Marathon, from Windsor Castle to Chiswick in West London, a gruelling course, as many of the world's greatest long distance runners would agree.

But it held no terrors for 32 year-old Jim Peters. He won the race in 2 hours, 29 minutes, 24 seconds, a record for the course, but nearly four minutes over the world record time for the distance.

Twelve months later, on June 14, 1952, he set out to run over the same course. On a bright English summer afternoon, the small "army" of runners set off from the grounds of Windsor Castle with 26 miles 385 yards of leg aching, brain-searing, lung-tugging torture ahead.

Right from the start it was the steely-muscled, pale-faced Jim Peters who took the lead. At 15 miles, which he covered in 1 hour 17 minutes, he had a lead of one and three-quarter minutes. At 20 miles he was three minutes ahead.

It was fantastic running — but it seemed impossible for a man to keep up such a crucifying pace.

"He'll be dead before the finish," said the experts.

But Jim Peters was a "running robot" and at last to a thunderous roar of cheering, he entered the Chiswick Stadium for the final lap.

His time for the race was 2 hours 20 minutes, 42.2 seconds. Even Jim Peters himself could hardly believe it.

He had not only beaten his own Windsor Chiswick course record by nine minutes, but had knocked more than four and a half minutes off the world record set by the Korean runner Choi Yoon Chil in October the previous year.

It was the most magnificent performance ever achieved in the history of the world's most gruelling endurance test, and as one official was heard to declare: "The rest of the world won't believe Jim's figures, they are so sensational."

Even some of the race officials could not believe the time, feeling that the course must have been short of the regulation distance. But the course was checked and re-checked and eventually it was announced that the runners had covered 26 miles 645 yards — 260 yards too much!

— David Henderson

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From Down Under

A return to nostalgia

WITH the Centenary Test in Melbourne only four months away, the Australian cricket-followers have been gripped by nos-

Two of Sydney's top-circulation papers have added to the excitement by holding contests. The first prize for both the contests is free tickets for two to the Centenary Test, free air fare and hotel accommodation.

"The Sun" has asked its readers to name the best New South Wales XI from players of 1918 till now, in the correct batting order as selected by Sir Donald Bradman.

"Daily Mirror" has challenged its readers to name its favourite cricketer in 40 words. The player selected should have played in an England-Australia Test series. So far Keith Miller is the leader with 14% votes and Charles Macartney, Sid Barnes and Richie Benaud sharing the second place with 6% votes each. The best letter published wins the first prize.

An enjoyable evening

TWELVE days after Bombay's day of memories - the Bombay Gymkhana centenary match of Quadrangular vintage, the Sydney branch of Australian Cricket Society held a symposium with four eminent past players and a former Test umpire. The five participants were either in their late seventies or early eighties. They were:

Hunter "Stork" Hendry (NSW, Victoria, Australia). Played 11 Tests between 1921-1929, scoring a century against England in 1928-29. Toured India under Jack Ryder in 1930. Highest score 325 no for Victoria against New Zealand in 1925-26.

Bill Hunt (NSW, Australia). Played one Test vs South Africa in 1931-32 as a spinner. He once took five hat-tricks in one season of Sydney's first grade cricket in 1930s.

O Wendell-Bill (NSW): Opening batsman. In a minor game was associated in an incredible stand with Bradman. Of the 102 runs added in 3 overs, Bradman hit 100, Bill 2!

Hal Hooker (NSW): Holder of a record last-wicket partnership of 307 with the great Alan Kippax; for NSW vs. Victoria in 1928-29.



West Indies and NSW fast bowler Andy Roberts looks on as Keith Miller gets a feel of a bat again at the SCG

In the return match Hal took 4 wickets in 4 balls - the only instance in Sheffield Shield to date.

George Borwick. Umpired 21 Tests in Australia from 1932 till 1948. He had an intuition of fire - during the controversial body-line series.

Over 80, erect and smiling, Borwick was the first speaker I met. He told me that his last series as an umpire was during India's visit to Australia under Lala Amarnath. He was full of praise for Vijay Hazare.

"Wasn't he (Hazare) a beautiful batsman to watch - what style, what strokes! And a pretty useful bowler too."

Borwick also recalled Bradman's 100th century during that tour. With the Don on 99, Amarnath introduced Kishenchand in the attack - an unknown bowler down-under.

"That certainly worried Bradman. He kept asking me what sort of a bowler was he," remembered a beamy Borwick.

A brief round-up of the symposium

HENDRY Hobbs and Sutcliffe were the best opening batsmen. Harold Larwood was the fastest, best and most accurate bowler. Warwick Armstrong's Australian team of 1921 was the strongest side. All the fielders knew where they had to field.

WINDLELL-BILL. His idol was Alan Kippax. Opening with him and Archie Jackson was an education. Larwood was the fastest bowler and more accurate than Jeff Thomson.

HUNT His coach was Arthur Mailey, the "millionaire" spinner and a hard taskmaster. Mailey coached him and Archie Jackson morning, noon and night. Hunt's hero was Charlie Macartney. To him Keith Miller was the greatest all rounder.

BORWICK In the past, players respected an umpire's verdict better than today's players. He added that there were actors among past players too, for example that great cricketer Sid Barnes.

HOOKE He proved the most entertaining speaker. He recalled the circumstances under which he joined Kippax for that epic 10th wicket stand of 307 - a record which has remained uneclipsed after almost 50 years.

Hooker concluded the Nostalgia Night with an amusing story. During a NSW-Queensland match in 1930s, Gilbert the aboriginal fast bowler from Queensland was "pinging" an old expression for throwing or chucking.

When a throw from Gilbert bowled Bill Hunt for a duck, the latter was determined to "ping" out Gilbert - in retaliation. This made slip fielder Stan McCabe double up in laughter for Hunt was a spinner.

When Gilbert came in to bat, Hunt warned his slip fielders: "Mind you, I'll be 'pinging' the fourth ball." And there was more giggling in the slip cordon.

Hunt deliberately bowled three no balls. And according to his plan, he argued with the umpire: "Watch my feet properly," he huffed.

As the harassed umpire was doing just that, Hunt 'bowled' an outrageous throw which shattered Gilbert's stumps! As the umpire's eyes were fixed on the bowler's feet, he did not notice Hunt's arm - much less his elbow!

On the note that gamesmanship is not a new concept did the enjoyable evening come to an end.

-K M MEHER-HOMJI

MISCELLANY-

Rebels hold out

MUSHTAQ MOHAMMAD sacked as Pakistan's captain for leading a pay revolt, has said he and five other senior players would not take part in the coming tour of Australia and the West Indies unless he was reappointed.

Mushtaq and the five pay rebels have been selected under the captaincy of Intikhab Alam.

He said he had spoken to Asif Iqbal, the group's spokesman.

Mushtaq said Asif told him the other players were still not prepared to tour "unless I am appointed as captain."

The other players involved are Mushtaq's brother Sadiq, Wasim Bari, Imran Khan and Majid Khan.

Coach sent off

TOM WISMAN, 27-year-old six footer from Quincy, Illinois, USA, wrote himself into English basketball's history books recently, when he became the first coach to be "sent off" in the four-year history of the National League.



The Rallis India Limited Group football team which won the President's Cup Football Championship beating AG's office in Bombay recently

Wisman, coach to League and Cup champions Cinzano SCP, was banished after storming on to the court after ten minutes of the match against League leaders Wilson Panthers of Doncaster, at Crystal Palace's National Recreation Centre.

Wisman faces certain suspension by the English Basketball Association who have become increasingly concerned this season over coaches leaping from the team

benches, disputing decisions and intimidating referees.

Wisman leapt to his feet and dashed onto the court after umpire Paul Kirkpatrick called a fourth foul on Cinzano's star, Jim Guymon. A player is permitted only five fouls.

Watching from the gallery as his team turned a one-point deficit into an overwhelming victory, Wisman said "The trouble with English referees is they know the rules,

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K F BARRINGTON

B W THOMAS

[Handwritten signatures corresponding to the names listed on the left]

but don't know how to handle situations"

"All the calls were going against my team, particularly from Kirkpatrick. I knew I'd get a technical foul, but I just wanted to scare him."

"I guess I scared him too much, but afterwards the calls were a lot fairer. Sure I intimidated him, but it just shows the standard of the refereeing we were putting up with."

REMEMBER that 850 million dollars bill, which French Canadians are faced with following the Montreal Olympics?

They are making an effort, you will be glad to know. Right now, COJO, the Games organisation committee, are trying to sell the Olympic high jump and pole vault

landing areas, by advertising them in the New York Times.

A high jump "pit" is priced at 1150 dollars, compared with the 1900 dollars it cost, new and installed. A pole vault pit comes at 1400 dollars, compared with 3100 when not "shop soiled".

This equipment was originally allowed in from the States, duty free, on the condition that it would be out of Canada by the end of this month.

An American friend points out that any lucky schoolboy high jumper, who gets the Olympic pit for Christmas, can say, casually, "Dwight Stones slipped here."

But surely the slip which is showing most is that of Montreal's Mayor Drapeau, whose Olympic adventure has put his city into the red.

IAN CHAPPELL, former Australian Test captain, said in a book published recently that he was never the man the Australian selectors wanted to lead the side.

"I had the job under sufferance," he said. "I always had the axe hovering above my head. They wanted someone who would say 'Yes sir, no sir, three bags full sir'."

THE asking price of £200,000 for sponsorship of next summer's England Australia Tests has frightened off companies interested in backing the series.

Now the Test and County Cricket Board may have to lower their sights in view of the economic climate.

Ground admission prices for the Australia Tests go up from £1.50 to £2.

The Board has agreed on principle to one item of clothing, probably the shirt, having an advertising insignia.



Mr. S. K. Wankhede recently addressed the Lions Club of Walkeshwar on sport. Seated from left are V. R. Shah, A. Rangwala, R. V. Mehta, president of the club, and K. B. Shah.

Q WHO would you name the "man of the series" of the recent Tests with New Zealand?

—S Raghunath (Bangalore)

A WHY not name Turner and keep the Kiwis happy

Q WHY were there no awards in the India New Zealand Test series?

—P N Gokhale (Poona-4)

A OUR Board has placed the awards beyond the reach of the players

Q WHAT do the initials EAS stand for in Prasanna's name?

—M R Anand (Davangere, Karnataka)

A Errapalli Anantrao Srinivas

Q WHICH were the first two teams to play at the Karnataka State Cricket Association stadium at Bangalore?

—K S Venkatesha (Bangalore 3)

A KARNATAKA and Hyderabad in a Ranji match

QUESTION BOX

Q HOW is it that while India with such a huge population can produce only two good athletes, a small nation like the German Democratic Republic produces so many champions?

—Terence Redden (Calcutta)

A WE have quantity and need quality

Q HAS Pakistani Test player Asif Iqbal ever played for Hyderabad in India?

—M Ramani (New Delhi 24)

A YES

Q WHAT are the Test figures of Sir Len Hutton?

—Navin Rhuwaka (Calcutta)

A HUTTON played in 79 Tests. In 133 innings, 15 times not out, he made 6971 runs at an average of 56.67. He hit up 19 centuries with 35 against Australia as his highest

Q WHERE is Pandurang Salgaonkar these days and why is he not being selected for the Test team?

—Shalendra Chauhan (Rae Bareilly)

A SALGAONKAR is assisting Maharashtra in the Ranji Trophy and is among the wickets. With our selection committee the question is not why a player is not in the team but how

Q COULD you describe the Bangalore Grand Prix Tennis Championships in two words?

—J D Saxena (Jullundur)

A GRAND fiasco

Q WHY hasn't Vijay Amrekar been winning of late?

—D C Rajendra (Hyderabad 4)

A TOO much play, too little rest

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CLOSING DATE: 4th JAN

Results will be published in the issue of Sportsweek dated 16th Jan '77

If more than one correct entry is received, the prizes will be shared by lot among the winners. The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence will be entertained.



by RAILBIRD

A gala, record breaking occasion

ALl that makes horse racing in India the consistently biggest crowd puller and a multi-crore industry was demonstrated in Bombay last week when a race meet was held in connection with the 15th Asian Racing Conference.

The colour was provided by the flags of the 13 conference nations fluttering in the breeze, the glamour by the presence of a host of delegates from 16 foreign nations and the presence of nine riders from eight of the foreign participant countries, the dignity by the President, Mr Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, the excitement by the blanket finish of the Japan Cup, the drama and the tension by the protracted delay before the judge announced that he could not sepa-

rate Deepa and Gallant Gurkha in the Alibag Stakes and the cardinal truth that there is a large element of chance in the sport by the frequency with which unfancied horses popped up.

It was, indeed, a gala record breaking occasion. For the first time did Bombay racegoers see foreign riders from 10 nations (eight conference ones and McGrath (Ireland) and Johnson (England)) and for the first time in India did the day's stakes total the almost unbelievable Rs 4,61,005. That was so because two-year-olds

were offered a record Rs 1,50,000 in the Indian Cup and Class Three runners an unheard of Rs 1,50,000 in the Japan Cup.

Racegoers, by and large, were more interested in the jockeys than the delegates, more concerned with the racing than the technical discussions and exchange of notes for which the conference had assembled. It is true that the conference riders were strangers to their mounts, which were drawn by lots, and also to the track. It is also true that some of them must have had a language problem when being briefed by the trainers. But with the exception of Bruce Compton, of New Zealand, and Japan's Yasuo Ikel, none of them came up to the standard of our own better riders. In fact, there can be little doubt that had any big Indian name been astride War Cry the roan would have decisively claimed the Japan Cup instead of finishing a close third behind F. Unnikrishnan's Wild Blossom and Pinot Noir in the hands of Indonesian's M. Singil.

The India Cup, to witness which the President arrived in state, provided a bigger upset. Mr and Mrs R. M. Goculdas and Mulraj D. Goculdas' Party Belle, a Promontory High Party filly, winning from First Flight, the favourite Satin Red and Gioconda. The Goculdas, who have been the leading owners for the last three years, thus got off to a flying start.

The conference, which has attracted 285 delegates and nine



Mr and Mrs. R. M. Goculdas, owners of Party Belle, receiving the India Cup from President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed



The blanket finish in the Japan Cup . . . Wild Blossom, Pinot Noir (on rails) and War Cry



RWITC chairman R. J. Kolah, chief guest Chief Justice J. M. Kantawalla, Mrs. Reyes of the Philippines and Mr. Williams of Hong Kong at the Asian Racing Conference

riders from the 12 foreign countries (Australia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia/Singapore, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand and Turkey) and from the United States, Iran, Qatar and Bahrain, was inaugurated by Chief Justice J. M. Kantawalla in a colourful ceremony on December 2 when A. A. Jasdenvalla, a former Steward of the RWITC, spoke on horse breeding. R. J. Kolah (RWITC) is the chairman and N. K. Pudumjee (RWITC) the secretary general of the conference.

The casual observer may feel that the conference is more of a social occasion than a working ses-

sion. That is not so as a great deal of serious discussions have already taken place in closed door sessions and more hard work will be gone through in Bangalore, Madras and Calcutta, which are also on the itinerary. To evaluate the work piecemeal is wrong and it will be better to wait till the conference is wound up in Bombay on December 15 to paint an overall picture of its deliberations and the impact they will have on racing in Asia in general and in India in particular.

Of immediate importance is the Indian 1,000 Guineas, which will be run in Bombay Byramji's Imperial (Landigou-Iss) and Reprint

(Prince Pradeep Request) and S. M. Shah's Amarantha (Paddykin Hind Pyari) are the three who should dominate the finish. Both Reprint and Amarantha are winners this season while Imperial was beaten into third place by Jamshid and Touch of Venus. Amarantha will be favoured most of the terms but as Reprint was a very impressive winner this column takes her to win.

Stock, a credit to the industry

SPEAKING at the inauguration function of the 13th Asian Racing Conference at Mahaluxmi last week, A. A. Jasdenvalla, a former Steward of the RWITC dwelt at length on the breeding aspect of racing and urged the Government to help plan the breeding programme, now in the hands of a few individuals.

He added that India today has come a long way since the first race club named "SANS SOUCIE" was established in Bombay in 1785. While prior to independence only, English and Arab horses were used for racing, we have today an established horse breeding industry which has been able to produce a good number of thoroughbreds, sound enough for local racing. In the opinion of certain racing experts, the quality



The finish of the India Cup: Party Belle wins from First Flight (left)

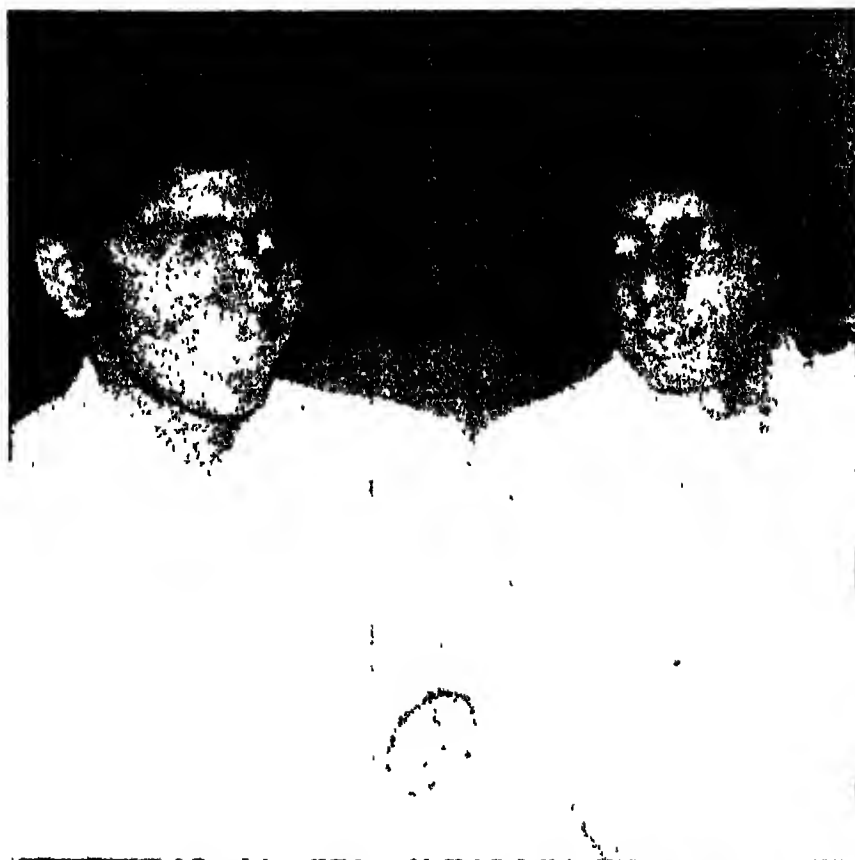
All's set for the Four Square meet

THE Amritraj brothers, Vijay, Anand and Ashok, along with all other leading players in the country will be participating in the National Lawn Tennis Championships which will be held in Bombay for the first time and that too on grass. Sashi Menon, the runner-up at the recent Indian Grand Prix in Bangalore, has also confirmed his entry.

The championship will be sponsored by M/S Godfrey Phillips, makers of Four Square Kings, a well known name in the field of sports. They have not only served Indian sport through monetary contributions but also by bringing top ranking tennis players through their principals for the Second Grand Prix held in Bombay in 1974. Tony Roche and Manuel Santana's participation in that tournament was entirely due to the efforts of M/S Godfrey Phillips, who are also involved in various sports activities, other than tennis, viz cricket and hockey.

M/S Godfrey Phillips are also sponsoring the Western India Tennis Championships to be held at the CCI and the Maharashtra State Hardcourts Championship at the Bandra Gymkhana, so also the All India Hardcourt Championships at Hyderabad. Their total involvement for tennis for the current year is more than Rs one lakh. Besides, they will also award scholarships to the deserving young tennis players. They are also exploring possibilities of employing young stars of promise in their company.

M/S Godfrey Phillips are also running a contest in the National English dailies to generate interest and awareness for the Four Square



Vijay and Anand Amritraj are among the leading players who will be taking part in the National Lawn Tennis Championships on the grass courts of the Bombay Gymkhana

Kings National Lawn Tennis Championships, which is going to cost Rs 50,000 to the sponsors. The first 200 all-correct entries of the quiz contest will each get a season ticket for the Nationals. They will

also present the Four Square Singles Trophy to the winner of the Championships.

Nine grass courts are being specially prepared under the supervision of the Bombay Gymkhana and the Maharashtra State Lawn Tennis Association. The sponsors are confident that the championships will be a great success and receive good response from tennis lovers.

— C P SANTI

Racing

of stock already being produced is a credit to our breeding industry.

"The breeding of quality horses is a long term process, an expensive one and one which involves considerable patience and foresight. With justification one can anticipate that India, in time to come, will be able to produce a race horse of quality, comparable to the best anywhere in the world. But, for this, efforts at the level of the individual breeder cannot suffice. In the advanced countries, the very finest blood strains have been developed through infinite care, substantial expenditure and much collaboration. Arab blood stock has been put to good use in these countries. What Arab blood has been made to do in order

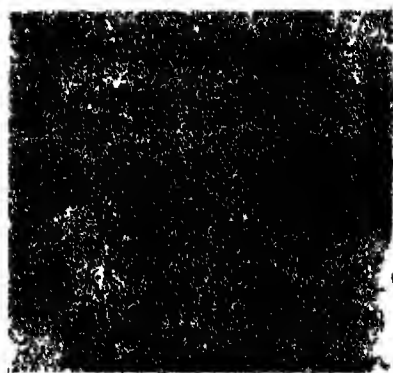
from p 44

to reinvigorate English and other thoroughbreds could well be emulated by us. The sanction and support of the Government and race clubs should be provided for the development of improved blood lines. Then the tremendous economic potential that the horse breeding industry holds can well be developed for the benefit of the country."

"The focus has, so far, erroneously been on the sporting and gambling aspects only of horse breeding and racing. It is necessary that we shift our gaze to perceive horse flesh as a national asset and to realise that in breeding quality animals we will be adding importantly to the nation's wealth."

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Sportsman of the year

AS the year 1976 rings out, it's a time for SPORTSWEEK to nominate its "Sportsman of the Year 1976". In a time of ever-diminishing achievements by our sportsmen at home and abroad, who else but Suresh Singh, who astounded his critics at Montreal with a seventh place and a personal best timing in the 800 metres, deserves that honour?

—Amarjit Singh Gill
(Ludhiana)

SPORTSWEEK invites readers to send in their nominations for the "Sportsman of the Year 1976" before the end of December 1976—Ed.

Grand flop again

FOR the fourth time in succession the Indian Open tennis tournament has proved to be a flop in the absence of the world's top players. It seems most of the top players, now professionals, are reluctant to take part in the Asian circuit because the prize money is not large enough.

Instead of opting to stage the Grand Prix, the AILTA should arrange a series of one-day exhibition matches in the leading cities of the country where tennis is popular. The gate money could help to swell the prize money.

—Bhim Krishnama
(Secunderabad)

Honour Engineer

I WAS sorry to note that Farokh Engineer was not invited to play for India against England. It seems the Cricket Board does not want to spend on his air passage and instead give more chances to Kirmani who can continue to serve India for years to come. The Board could have honoured Engineer in his benefit year by inviting him for the series which would have been his farewell appearance.

—Smita Vyas (Bombay-54).

A suggestion

HERE is a suggestion to the Cricket Control Board. Stop this first innings lead business in the Ranji Trophy. This system of awarding points, which requires a batsman to stay at the wicket and wait for a bad ball to score, instead of taking reasonable risks to push the score along, when he had stayed there for long enough, is responsible for India getting bogged down so very often in Test cricket. Gavaskar, Gaekwad, Mohinder Amarnath and Viswanath are used to these tactics for their respective associations. It is a particular situation where the Indians are adversely affected by the scoring of points system in the Ranji Trophy and it must be done away with.

—S Sinha (Calcutta)

Selectors' whims

APROPOS your editorial (Nov 28), I could not follow your arguments about the whims and fancies of the selectors. I honestly feel that the dropping of Vengsarkar for the final Test at Madras was not politically motivated as alleged.

I believe that Vengsarkar could have come only in place of Manjivkar who had done enough with the bat and in the field to be retained for the last Test. And then, if the selectors thought that Vengsarkar and Indian cricket would benefit more by the youngster's playing against Willis, Old and Co at Poona than by his watching the third Test from the dressing room there was nothing wrong. I for one could not find fault with the selectors.

—K Ravendran (Trivandrum)

Thanks

HATS off to you for making available Sportsworld of December 5, 1976 within 24 hours of the third Test getting over at Madras. No doubt you delayed the issue and the copies were available to Bombay readers on Saturday evening. I was thrilled to see a complimentary copy with a friend of mine on Friday afternoon. Thanks, once again.

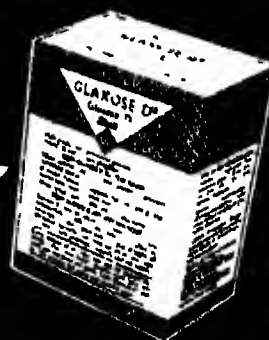
—Dilip Saxena (Bombay-5)

THE New Zealanders were not happy with some of the umpiring decisions in the three-Test series. But their behaviour on and off the field, arguments with the umpires, protests and tantrums spoiled their image greatly.

Anant Somaiya (Madras-32)



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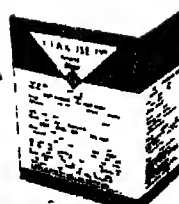
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- 2 The Contest will be judged by a panel of independent judges whose decision will be final and binding. No correspondence will be entertained.
- 3 No responsibility will be accepted for delayed receipt, non receipt or misplacement of entries.
- 4 The directors and employees of Glaxo Laboratories (India) Ltd, Inquilab Publications Private Limited, Delhi and Associates Private Limited, or the relatives of such directors and employees as well as the fan club of the cricketers is ineligible to enter the Contest.
- 5 Entries may send as many entries as they like, but each entry must be accompanied by the top flap of a 400 gm Glaxose-D pack along with the cash memo.
- 6 There will be only one prize per entry.
- 7 The Contest closes on 28th February 1977.

Cricket lovers—have fun and win prizes. It's easy. All you have to do is to identify boyhood photos of famous Test stars. For example, if you feel that E is the boyhood picture of Sunil Gavaskar put 'E' against his name and so on.

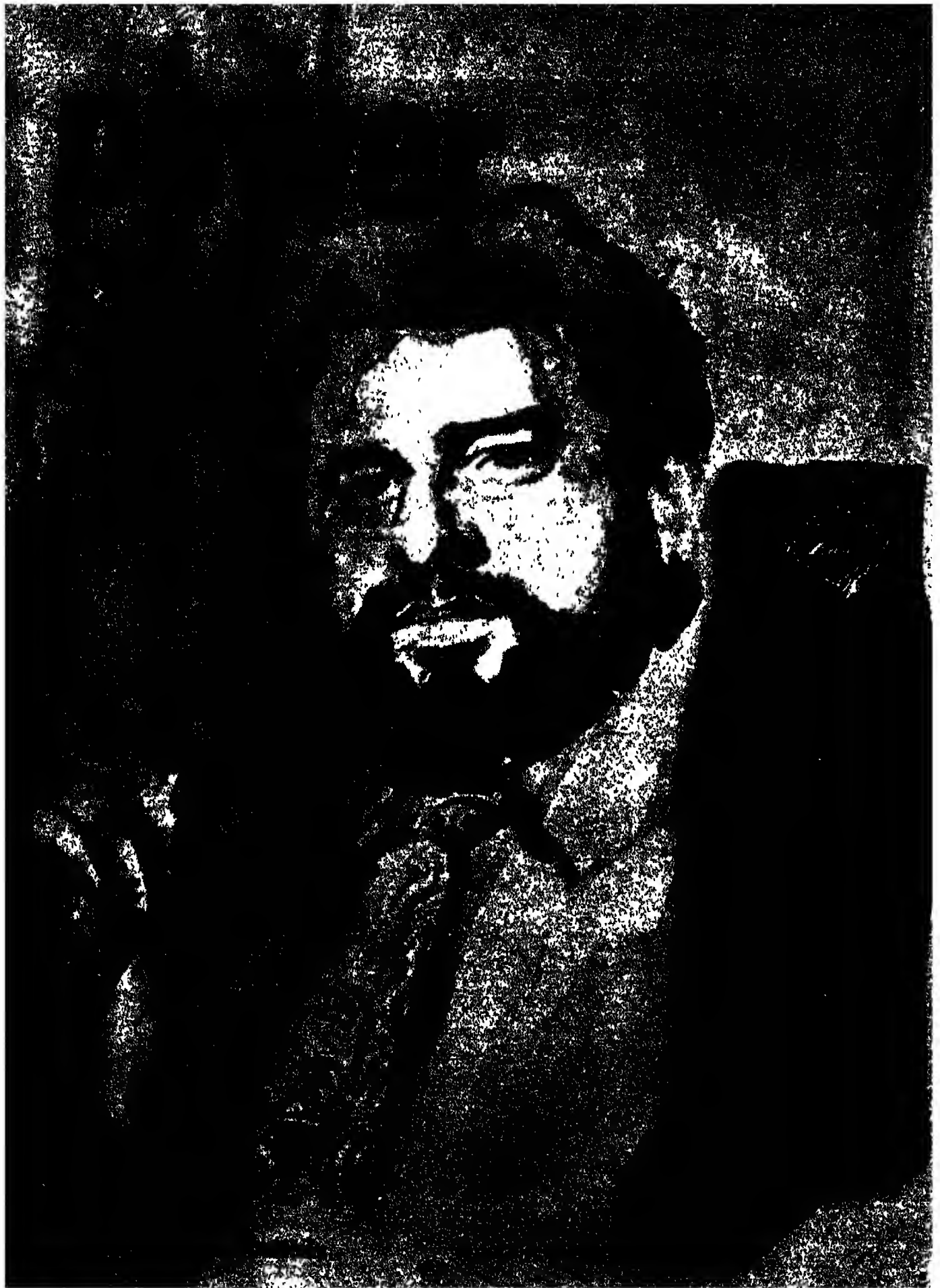
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28th February 1977**

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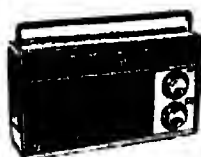
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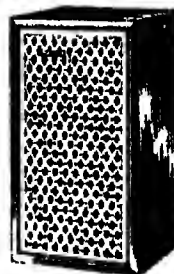
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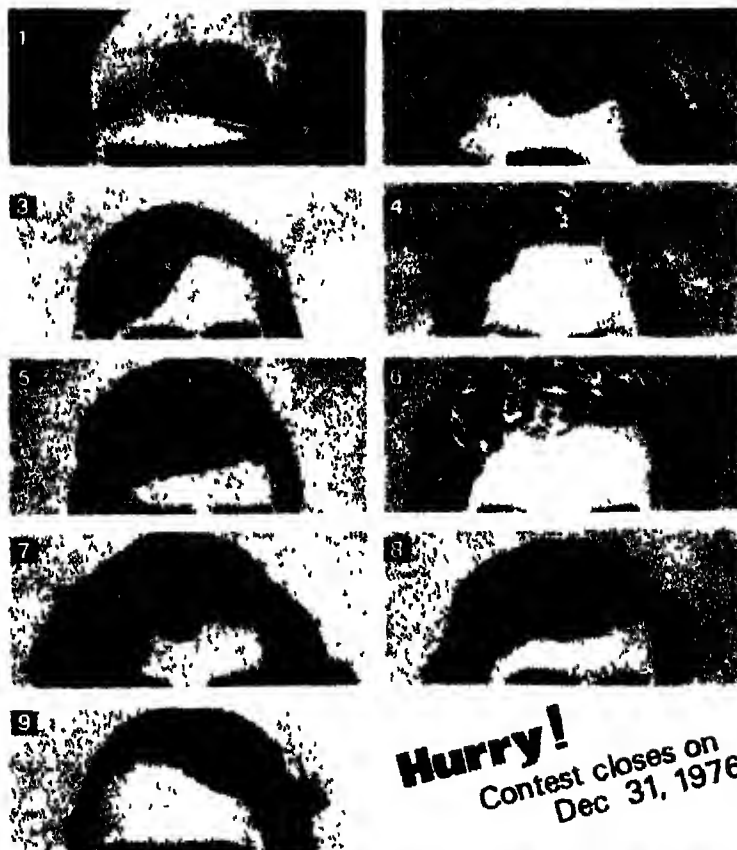
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COVER: Mike Brearley, vice-captain of the visiting MCC team. Transparency. Bristol Photos

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Man of the match award

SPORTSWEEK is happy to announce that the Board of Control for Cricket in India has accepted its proposal to award Rs 1,500 to the "Man of the Match" for all the five Tests between India and England.

The panel of judges will be Cricket Board selection committee chairman C. D. Gopinath, the manager of the England team, Ken Barrington, and the manager of the Indian team, with SportswEEK Managing Editor Khalid Ansari as the convener

SHARAD KOTNIS:

Now, the real Tests are here

AFTER the cake-walk win India had over New Zealand in the three Test series which ended only a fortnight ago — a series which failed to create much interest among the cricket crazy millions in this country—everyone is looking forward to the five Tests against England the first of which starts at Ferozshah Kotla in New Delhi over the week-end.

In the four matches preceding the first Test, Tony Greig and his men, especially his batsmen, have shown that England, though in the process of rebuilding their side after the hammering they received in recent years, first at the hands of Australia and then the West Indies, will be a tough nut to crack. All their top batsmen, barring perhaps Amis and Woolmer, have scored heavily in these matches, though they have yet to come against the wiles of our ace spinners. Of course, Prasanna was in the attack against them at Ahmedabad and Bedi in Jullundur but these are hardly the games in which they would choose to expose their 'tricks'.

England's fast bowlers have impressed on our slow wickets. They must indeed have been surprised at the amount of movement they got in the air at Ahmedabad. The Bombay batsmen who have played them at Poona and Ahmedabad, feel that Mike Selvey, who moves the ball both ways appreciably will be the most dangerous English bowler in conditions that suit him. The visitors have also impressed in the all-important fielding department where Derek Randall and Graham Barlow have excelled.

Though the visitors have captured the hearts of the Indian followers of the game with their performances and good manners on and off the field, they are faced with quite a few problems as far as fitness is concerned. At the time of going to press on the last day of their match against North Zone, three players are indisposed. Besides Geoff Cope hasn't returned as yet. It is hoped that all will be well by the time the Delhi Test begins.

Though India must go into the series with confidence, what with a 2-0 victory over the Kiwis still fresh in memory, it's not going to be smooth-sailing. The thoroughly professional side is also bubbling with confidence and will be quite a different proposition from the Kiwis. The series has special significance for India for the Calcutta Test will mark the golden jubilee of Tests between the two countries and the Madras one will be India's 150th against all countries. Moreover, as we go to Australia next winter, a good performance against England can certainly boost our morale for the sterner Tests ahead.

The team for the Delhi Test shows one change from the one that played against New Zealand at Madras — Prasanna coming in for Ashok Mankad after the spinner's good showing at Ahmedabad. Whether Prasanna plays in the final eleven or not is pure conjecture at the moment. But whatever way you look at it, the dropping of Ashok Mankad is hard to reason out.

CRICKET NOTES

Engineer on top of the world

FAROKH ENGINEER the Lancashire and Indian wicket-keeper and batsman, will break a world record when his benefit figures are announced.

Engineer is expected to reach a tax-free £45,000 — about £15,000 more than the previous best Warwickshire's David Brown, in 1973.

It is more than three times better than the previous Lancashire best, Cyril Washbrook's £14,000 in 1948.

Benefit committee chairman Roy Crook confirmed he was expecting a record. "The gross figure should be around £45,000. Farokh will have some heavy expenses to pay out of that, but I think everyone in Lancashire can feel very pleased."

Said "Rooky" "If the final figure is £20,000, I'll be over the moon. I have to be grateful to my committee and all those people who rallied so magnificently at all the various functions."

"They say Lancashire folk are the most warmhearted in the world. Well, this proves it."

Crook's committee will soon start work on their next campaign organising Clive Lloyd's benefit.



figure of £45,000 achieved by his Lancashire colleague Farokh Engineer last season. When all the expenses are paid, Rooky is likely to end up with around £35,000.

Happy tippling, sorry, happy slogging, Clive

We want Mike

MIKE DENNESS, former England and Kent captain and still one of the best middle-order batsmen in cricket, is being chased by half the county sides of the country.

The question now is: Where does he go? Surrey, Sussex, Essex, Glamorgan, and several Midland clubs have all made approaches either to Kent or to Denness.

So far Denness still in the limbo of an unresolved backroom dispute with Kent, a crucial decision must soon be made.

"I think it will have to come in the next three or four weeks," he said. "Certainly I want my immediate future sorted out before I go as a guest to the England Australia Centenary Test in Melbourne in March."

He refused to enter a slanging match on the Kent issue which has



left most people baffled. He added: "I would like to think the problems with Kent could still be resolved."

"After all, I have spent 14 years of my cricketing life here and have a great feeling for the supporters."

"But, with every week that passes with no change in the situation, that seems more and more unlikely."

"I certainly have not routed my services anywhere. But if you ask me if there have been approaches from other countries, I must be honest and say yes."

All Denness would say on the Kent row is that it stemmed from what he felt was a helpful suggestion he made about the captaincy.

Happy slogging, Lloyd



EVERY run Clive Lloyd hammered for Lancashire next season will be worth the price of a pint.

And cheers for Clive, every 6 he clouts will be worth the price of a bottle of vodka.

It's all part of a plan to boost Lloyd's benefit fund. Greenall and Whitley, the Warrington-based brewery, are to underwrite Lloyd's scoring at 30p a pint for a run and £4 per bottle for a 6. And for someone like free-scoring Clive, that's an awful lot of hops.

Grinned Clive, who last season led the West Indies to a big Test series win over England. "I can promise I won't be taking the prize by the bottle. It will all be translated into hard cash."

One target Lloyd has his eye on will be the world record benefit

Walters back

A USTRALIAN pace bowlers Dennis Lillee and Jeff Thomson are in the 12 players selected for the first two cricket Tests against Pakistan, in Adelaide on December 24 and Melbourne on January 1. And back in the side is that enigmatic middle-order batsman Doug Walters who missed the series against the West Indies due to a knee injury.

The team Greg Chappell (captain), Rod Marsh (vice-captain), Gary Cosier, Ian Davis, Garry Gillmour, Dennis Lillee, Rick McCosker, Kerry O'Keeffe, Jeff Thomson, Alan Turner, Max Walker, Doug Walters.



Doug Walters

The Pakistan selection drama

THERE was considerable drama before the Pakistan cricket team to tour Australia was finally announced.

The Pakistan cricket team, due to leave for Australia in nine days, was dissolved at the eleventh hour.

So, also, was the selection panel which chose the team.

Pakistan Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto brought the country's upheaval to a climax by directing his Federal Sports Minister Abdul Hafeez Pirzada to take full control of the dispute.

The Minister then named the members of the new selection board, its chairman being Hanif Mohammad, Pakistan's long-serving

opening batsman and elder brother of Mushtaq Mohammad.

Before the Prime Minister acted, it appeared certain that six of the country's leading players would boycott the tour of Australia and the following tour of the West Indies.

Pirzada's take over of control was a prelude to the reinstatement of Mushtaq Mohammad as captain.

After leading Pakistan to a 2-0 victory over New Zealand in a recent home Test series, Mushtaq was sacked by the Pakistan Cricket Board for initiating a players' revolt to demand more money for the forthcoming Australian and Caribbean tour.

The board subsequently appointed former skipper Intikhab Alam to captain the touring party.

But Mushtaq and the five other rebel professionals — his brother Sadiq Mohammad Asif Iqbal, Maqsood Khan, Imran Khan and Wasim Bari — told Pirzada that they would not tour under Intikhab.

All six players were among the 18 strong party selected for a second time for the tour under Intikhab.

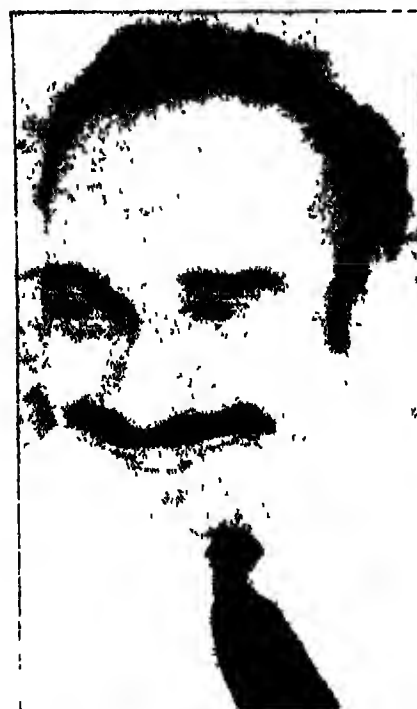
But Mushtaq reaffirmed from his home in England that he and the other rebels were not prepared to go on the tour unless he was reinstated as captain.

Pirzada recognised that the withdrawal of the six players would

seriously weaken Pakistan's chances against Australia and the West Indies.

He then decided the action of the cricket board in sacking Mushtaq was unauthorised. So we now have Mushtaq back in the saddle.

(Earlier report p 17)



D. Gopinath, chairman of the Indian cricket selection committee, has been appointed Sheriff of Madras for 1977.



Members of the Indian women's cricket team now on a one-month tour of New Zealand were presented Gola cricket shoes in Delhi.

Prakash moves ahead

PRAKASH PADUKONE's game has certainly sharpened. His recent experience in the two international tournaments in the country have seen to that. And he gave evidence of it with facile victories during the Western India Badminton Championships sponsored by the Union Bank of India Sports Club.

The five-time national champion was faster on his feet, and has added a few more tricks to his repertoire of strokes. With added speed he now contacts the 'bird' much earlier leaving his opponent little time to make an effective return. His feint is more deceptive, and he has added to the full-blooded smash, his forte, the half-smash.

Prakash is also a craftier tactician, changing his game with different adversaries. This he did to a nicety during his crafty win over 34-year old Dinesh Khanna in the men's singles final. Twenty-two year old Prakash was in full cry, and aware of the risk of taking things easy against the 'returning machine.' Prakash set a hot pace giving little opportunity for Dinesh to bring about his defence effectively.

However, to climb further on the international ladder Prakash

needs far more experience in the international arena. It is only more play with rivals superior to him that will help him further improve his court craft. In India he does not have any one to offer him the semblance of a challenge to further sharpen his game.

The aging Dinesh with his performances definitely proved that he is still a force to reckon with in Indian badminton. However, he now attempts to finish rallies earlier than he normally did in the past. He plays high percentage badminton and still relies on forcing his rivals into errors through sheer weariness. This was very much in evidence during his encounters against Kanchhal Kumar Cheema and Partho Ganguli.

A heartening feature of the championships was the sterling performance of international juniors Uday Pawar and Madhu Bezboru in the paired events. They combined well and attacked to reach the final of the men's doubles. However, they have a few rough edges, especially in the tactical control of a game. This surfaced in the final when Prakash slowed the tempo of the match.

The young combination, however, is full of promise and needs to be encouraged. They have a tremendous advantage of coming from the same city which offers

Left top: Prakash Padukone, the champ. Far left: Lata Kailash, triple crown winner and left Manik Kelkar, winner of the Frey Talayar-Khan Trophy for the outstanding player from Maharashtra

Text & pics HOSEY MISTRY

a year round opportunity for them to practise together as a team. Court craft will come automatically with experience. Let's look to the future and give these lads all the opportunity of mushrooming into a good international combination.

The belle of the tournament was Kerala's collegian Lata Kailash who was the only player to register a treble. However, much cannot be said about the standard of play amongst the women. Lack of concentration was the biggest cleft in their armour.

The Union Bank of India Sports Club have to be lauded for sponsoring this fine tournament, and the city's badminton fans hope that this is a forerunner of many more to come.



SV Managing Editor Khalid Ansari with Madhu Bezboru (left) and Uday Pawar, the boys' title winners, after he had handed over their prizes. The lads also put up a tremendous show in the men's doubles

MISCELLANY

Ali to fight Foreman?

WORLD heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali has accepted a public challenge from former champion George Foreman to come out of retirement and fight him next year.

After Foreman taunted Ali with "You want to fight me? Fight me," the world champion replied "Just wait three months I'll get you, nigger."

Ali, who announced his retirement on October 1 just two days after defeating Ken Norton in New York, told reporters that he needed two warm-up fights before boxing Foreman, the man he dethroned in Kinshasa in October 1974.

"I'll fight you, chump," Ali screamed at Foreman in the Sam Houston Coliseum, where the champion is shooting scenes for *The Greatest*, a film about his life.

But Foreman replied "You don't need any warm up bouts. I've been waiting long enough. Why can't you fight me in two or three months' time?"

The two fighters clashed after Ali called a press conference and speculation mounted that he would announce he was coming out of retirement to fight undefeated heavyweight Duane Bobick in New York next February.

The press conference was cancelled without explanation. But Foreman, who had planned to attend, turned up anyway.

Foreman promptly climbed into the ring to face Ali. Several wooden chairs were thrown into it but missed the boxers.

IFA wakes up

THE Indian Football Association has at last woken up to its duties. Several measures have already been taken to change a lot of things for the better.

To begin with, the association has arranged for the insurance of players selected for the National Championships in Patna for an amount of Rs 20,000 each. This is the first time any association in the AIFF has taken such a measure, according to Asoke Ghosh, honorary secretary.

The fact that the 82-year-old association has for the first time in its history, been allotted a

ground for exclusive use has given it a shot in the arm. While coaching for the junior team has already begun, selection has already been made for the seniors' camp. All these years, the IFA has had to scrounge for a ground to conduct these selection trials.

The ground has also enabled the IFA to start training camps for

A ray of hope for Prakash

INDIA's brightest hope for international badminton honours, Prakash Padukone, will be proceeding to Jakarta, Indonesia, next year for practice against the Indonesian Thomas Cup squad.

Travelling expenses will be borne by Padukone's employers, Union Bank, whereas boarding and lodging will be looked after by the Indian Association in Jakarta.

The move for sending Padukone to Indonesia was initiated during the Asian Championship at Hyderabad by the Union Bank through the Badminton Association of India. The Indonesian Association has acceded to the request.

It is hoped that Padukone who has progressed by leaps and bounds in the recent past and who does not have stiff enough opposition in the country will benefit immensely during his stay in Indonesia.

— K A

coaches. The latter, selected from the different districts, will undergo training in two phases and are expected to coach personnel in their own districts to succeed them.

The association, which had undertaken along with the State Sports Council a scheme to train youngsters in districts, plans to select the best among these trainees and get them through an intensive camp in Calcutta. This move will give football a big boost in the State and ensure a steady stream of local talent.

All these schemes had been held for a number of years because the association did not have a ground of its own. The State Government and the IFA must be congratulated for this breakthrough in training.

New era

WITH the suspension of Sudhir Karmakar, Goutam Sarkar, Asokelal Banerjee and Tarun Bose, East Bengal have ushered in a welcome era in Calcutta football. All these years, the top footballers of the State acted high and mighty, thinking they were too big for officials to issue orders to them.

These four players had refused to participate in a tournament in which East Bengal lost ingloriously. The club served a show-cause notice which two of the players refused to answer. None of them had adequate answers. Nor did they apologise for their conduct. The club, at a meeting on December 11, decided to suspend them for a year.

This move will embolden other clubs to act in the same manner. If club officials remain firm, one can expect discipline to return to Calcutta soccer after years of unruly behaviour. It will also strengthen the hands of the IFA in dealing with players' conduct on the field. Up to now, the IFA had to compromise with the clubs while suspending players.

—ARIJIT SEN

Olga to wed?

EVERYONE's darling of the Olympics, Russian gymnast Olga Korbut plans to marry next year, according to an American department store.

Olga Korbut, 21, bought a wedding dress at the J C Penney store in St Louis, Missouri, recently, but would not name the bridegroom.

She told an assistant she wanted "a wedding gown like they wore 50 years ago."

The Munich gold medalist chose a synthetic fabric dress off the rack, with a high neck and waistline, trimmed in Venice lace. She also bought a veil.

Fools work

NICOLA PIETRANGELI, Italian Davis Cup tennis coach, said in Buenos Aires, that the Italians would meet Chile in Santiago on December 17, despite political protests that the match should be called off.

He said his family had received death threats in Italy if the match went ahead, but dismissed them as "the work of someone who is crazy or foolish."

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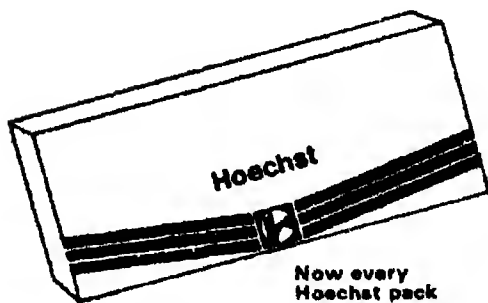
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THE ART OF CRICKET.

Back leg glance

ONE should only attempt this shot if satisfied that the ball would pass clear of the leg stump if not struck. Otherwise, there would obviously be too great a risk of lbw.

The ideal ball is one pitched just outside the leg stump. The right foot should be moved back and across in front of the stumps, with the right toe pointing down the pitch. As the body swivels round in the execution of the shot, the right foot acts as a pivot.

Contact should be made with the ball just a few inches in front of the left leg, and it is a sound theory to suggest that the left leg shall be in such a position that the ball will hit it if not struck with the bat.

First, this means the ball is being played from the correct position, and secondly it is a useful safeguard against being caught by the wicketkeeper should the ball be glanced too finely.

The left hand makes sure the bat is perpendicular (except that the handle should be slightly forward of the blade) at contact, at which stage the right hand dictates the turning movement to get the required deflection.

Dropping the right hand down the handle will aid control in glancing and can be safely done because no power is required. The ball generates its own.

The ideal ball to glance is one just short of a length from a fast or medium pace bowler but, as with most shots, the batsman by his own prowess may extend the range. Bill Brown, for instance, was an adept at glancing even the slow leg spinner simply because he possessed a delicacy of touch and a penchant for the stroke beyond that of most players.

Forward leg glance

The basic features of the two glances are similar but one naturally must select a different ball for each one.

A forward leg glance demands that the ball should be pitched a half-volley or at least farther up than a good length. Its direction would be the same as that for a back leg glance.

The initial foot movement by the batsman would be similar to that outlined for an on drive, with one

exception. When playing an on drive, the ball is struck with power, and I liked to have the ball coming inside the front leg to give maximum freedom to the swing of the bat. But with the forward leg glance, accuracy is required, not power, and the front foot should be placed slightly more towards the off so that the ball would, if missed altogether by the bat, strike the outside edge of the pad.

The head and shoulders should be kept forward and down, the bat

an off-spinner immediately bring into play the short-leg fieldsmen, especially the leg-slips, who are there mainly to pick up a catch of the inside edge of the bat.

To try to avoid these possibilities, and at the same time attack the bowler in a reasonably safe manner, the sweep stroke can be cultivated against this type of ball.

It is played simply by advancing the front leg down the pitch and swinging at the ball with almost

by SIR DONALD BRADMAN

inclined forward, hands ahead of the blade, to try to make sure the ball is glanced downwards and not up in the air. If desired, the right hand may go down the handle to assist control.

One final word of advice. Don't try those glances against a new ball which is swinging towards slips. You need the full face of the bat for them.

Sweep shot

If you were batting against a slow spinner who frequently sent down slightly overpitched balls on or just outside the leg stump, how would you play them? That should be a fun question to a class of cricket students.

From those rabid disciples of a perpendicular bat I should expect answers varying between an intended on drive, a leg glance and a purely defensive shot. Each would carry some element of risk.

An attempted on drive against a leg break needs care because the striker, by advancing his left foot down the pitch outside the leg stump, would leave the way open to being bowled providing the ball turned enough from leg. He has deprived himself of a second line of defence for the stumps. There is also the possibility of a catch from the outside edge of the bat.

The purely defensive play against

horizontal bat, so that the ball will, in effect, be swept behind square, leg.

There are two important points to remember. The first is that the ball must be hit on the ground and this is achieved by rolling the wrists over in the execution of the sweep and by keeping the bat slightly on top of the line of flight.

Sweeping against a leg-break without closing the face of the blade would mean a very great risk of skying a catch in the region of the square leg umpire, because the ball only has to hit the top edge of the bat and it must fly up.

The second point is to make sure the front foot is correctly positioned. It must be placed so that it is in a direct line between the ball and the stumps.

This precaution is to make sure the ball cannot break round the leg and bowl the striker, and is vital against the leg spinner. The bat sweeps across the line of flight so that the amount of turn on the ball doesn't really matter. The horizontal blade acts as a protection against the break in much the same way as a perpendicular blade protects against variations in height from a straight ball on the stumps.

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(to be continued)

SPORTING SAM by Reg Wootton



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An opportunity lost

WAS winning all three Tests against New Zealand so important that our selectors gave no thought to the future and didn't venture to experiment, especially with our bowling?

The New Zealanders came to India after being soundly thrashed by Pakistan, their three-Tests-only programme here gave them no opportunity of repairing morale, yet our selectors took not the slightest risk in the three Tests, even after winning at Bombay. As a result, they have learnt nothing from these matches, except perhaps that Kumari has established himself.

The kind of risk I would have thought worth taking was to play an extra medium-pacer (perhaps Barun Burman) by leaving out the third spinner (perhaps Chandrasekhar). As hindsight shows, even Burman's pace might have broken the last-ditch stand by New Zealand at Kanpur while at Madras it would surely have been uncomfortable had he been able to land on the patch like Hadlee.

Regardless of immediate results, the experiment of playing three medium-pacers — really two, because Mohinder Amarnath finds a place primarily as batsman — would have been clear and uncontested proof that the Board of Cricket is fulfilling its much repeated promise of encouraging pace bowlers. I cannot see such an experiment costing us a Test match against New Zealand. What I can see is that our Test bowling has rested for so long on three spinners that our selectors simply cannot visualize any other strategy. The just completed New Zealand series gave us just the right kind of opportunity to experiment but it has been ignored.

When our cricket authorities profess that they want to encourage pace bowling, what they probably mean is, if and when a pace bowler is discovered, the Board will devise ways and means to encourage him. What the authorities do not realize is that reversing this process may prove more fruitful — that is, if they were to encourage whatever pace bowlers that are available, the very idea of pace-bowling would become a reasonable proposition again and, in due course, lead to practical results.

What happens at present is far more discouraging than outright disregard. Not since the 1969 series against Australia has a purely opening bowler been included in a Test. Others, who have opened the bowling, have done so in full consciousness of two considerations —

by SUJIT MUKHERJEE

one, that more is expected of them as batsman and fielder than as bowler, two, that three world-class spin bowlers are breathing down their backs, who would be entrusted with the bowling as soon as decently possible. Under these circumstances, Test quickies like Abid Ali and Solkar and Madan Lal and Mohinder Amarnath and Ghavri can scarcely be blamed for not bowling better than they have done.

A much worse effect of these two factors is that all aspiring quickies know, from ample evidence, that unless they develop other skills as well, merely bowling as fast as they can would not carry them very far. Why should they then break their backs and hearts in aspiring to bowl fast?

There are less strenuous ways of making a cricket career in India. In conformity with Darwin's law, our medium pacers have adapted to their surroundings. More adequate adaptation may one day make the species altogether extinct.

Our medium-pacers have, however, failed grievously on one account. No one, since Surinder Nath of the Services, has been a run saver when he hasn't been among the wickets. In saying this, I am thinking of the services rendered to their respective teams by Gerry Gomez of West Indies or Trevor Goddard of South Africa or Derek Shackleton of England in their time. If Madan Lal or Ghavri or Mohinder Amarnath could bowl well enough to contain batsmen, they would take some of the pressure off our spinners and win greater trust of our selectors.

Figures are fun

Follow them
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Top individual scores in Tests

AN individual innings score of 270 or more runs in a Test has been made only 20 times in a total of 787 Tests played till the end of November 1976. It has been accomplished seven times for England, six times for Australia, four times for the West Indies, twice for Pakistan and once for South Africa.

A remarkable statistic is that no player of any country has hit a score of 270 plus more than once — with one towering exception. Don Bradman is the only one to perform this feat four times!

WEST INDIES

Gary Sobers	365*	v Pak	(Kingston)	1957-58
Lawrence Rowe	302	v Eng	(Bridgetown)	1973-74
Vivian Richards	291	v Eng	(The Oval)	1976
George Headley	270*	v Eng	(Kingston)	1934-35

ENGLAND

Len Hutton	364	v Aus	(The Oval)	1938
Walter Hammond	336*	v NZ	(Auckland)	1932-33
Andy Sandham	325	v WI	(Kingston)	1929-30
John Edrich	310*	v NZ	(Headingley)	1965
R E Foster	287	v Aus	(Sydney)	1903-04
Peter May	285*	v WI	(Edgbaston)	1957
Denis Compton	278	v Pak	(Trent Bridge)	1954

AUSTRALIA

Don Bradman	334	v Eng	(Headingley)	1930
Bob Simpson	311	v Eng	(Old Trafford)	1964
Bob Cowper	307	v Eng	(Melbourne)	1965-66
Don Bradman	304	v Eng	(Headingley)	1934
Don Bradman	299*	v SA	(Adelaide)	1931-32
Don Bradman	270	v Eng	(Melbourne)	1936-37

PAKISTAN

Hanif Muhammad	337	v WI	(Bridgetown)	1957-58
Zaheer Abbas	274	v Eng	(Edgbaston)	1971

SOUTH AFRICA

Graeme Pollock	274	v Aus	(Durban)	1969-70
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The highest individual score for New Zealand is Glenn Turner's 259 v West Indies at Georgetown in 1971-72, whilst India's top individual score is Vinoo Mankad's 231 v New Zealand at Madras in 1955-56.

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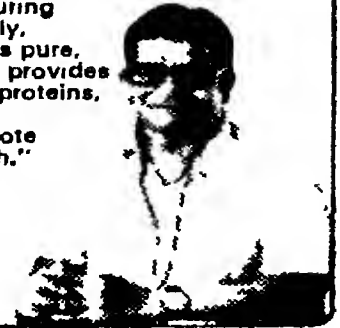
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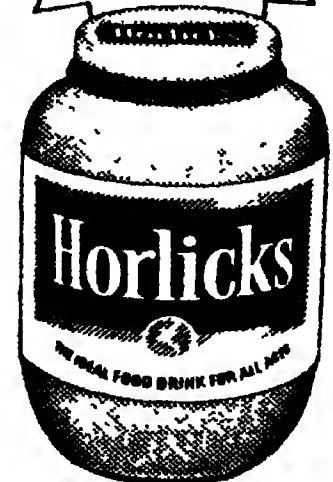
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INDIA v ENGLAND

by B. N. NAGARAJA RAO

VISWANATH, 693 runs from 11 Tests, and Sunil Gavaskar, 585 runs from 11 Tests, have good chance to reach four-figure mark against England this winter

Chandrasekhar has claimed 76 England wickets for 1941 runs from 17 Tests so far. He has got good chances to complete a "Century of Wickets" against England this winter

Bishen Singh Bedi holds the Indian bowling record for the highest number of wickets i.e., 190 for 5301 runs from 48 Tests. He has got good chances to complete 200 wickets

Gavaskar has compiled 915 runs from ten Tests in the Calendar year 1976. He is 85 runs short of 1,000. He has to achieve this in the first Test against England from December 17 to 22. He had scored 266 runs against New Zealand, 390 against West Indies and 259 against New Zealand during 1976

HIGHEST TOTAL India 510 at Leeds in 1967, England 629 at Lord's in 1971

LOWEST IN AN INNINGS India

Luck of the toss

NINETEEN Indian skippers have won the toss 74 times and 73 times in 147 official Tests

M. A. K. Pataudi won and lost the toss 20 times each

Following is the list of Indian skippers and their luck with the coin

Indian skippers	Toss		
	W	L	T
C. K. Nayudu	1	3	4
Vizianagaram	1	2	3
Pataudi (Sr)	3	—	3
L. Amarnath	3	12	15
V. S. Hazare	8	6	14
V. Mankad	1	5	6
Ghulam Ahmed	1	2	3
P. R. Umrigar	6	2	8
H. R. Adhikari	1	—	1
D. K. Gaekwad	2	2	4
P. Roy	1	—	1
G. S. Ramchand	4	1	5
N. J. Contractor	7	5	12
Pataudi (Jr)	20	20	40
C. G. Borde	—	1	1
A. L. Wadekar	7	9	16
S. Venkatraghavan	1	—	1
S. M. Gavaskar	—	1	1
B. S. Bedi	7	2	9
Total	74	73	147

42 at Lord's in 1974, England 101 at The Oval in 1971

FOLLOW-ON India faced follow-on eight times and England once

THREE - FIGURE INNINGS Eighteen Indian batsmen 30 times and 29 England batsmen 40 times have played three-figure innings

HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL SCORE M. A. K. Pataudi (India) 203 not out at Delhi in 1964, G. F. Boycott (England) 216 not out at Leeds in 1967

MOST RUNS IN A TEST SERIES V. L. Manjrekar 586 runs in 1961-62, B. K. Kunderan 525 runs in 1964 and K. F. Barrington 594 runs in 1961-62

MOST RUNS IN INDIA - ENGLAND TEST MATCHES V. L. Manjrekar 1181 runs from 17 Tests, F. M. Engineer 1113 runs from 18 Tests, and K. F. Barrington 1355 runs from 14 Tests

MOST WICKETS IN AN INNINGS Thirteen Indian bowlers 28 times and 21 England bowlers 29 times claimed five wickets or more in an innings

Vinoo Mankad's eight for 55 at Madras in 1951-52, B. S. Chandrasekhar's eight for 79 in 1972-73 and F. S. Trueman eight for 31 at Manchester in 1952

MOST WICKETS IN A MATCH Vinoo Mankad's 12 for 108 at Madras in 1951-52, A. V. Bedser's 11 for 93 at Manchester 1946 and 11 for 145 at Lord's in 1946, H. Verity's 11 for 153 at Madras in 1933-34

MOST WICKETS IN A TEST SERIES B. S. Chandrasekhar 35 for 662 from five Tests in 1972-73, F. S. Trueman 29 for 386 from four Tests in 1952

MOST WICKETS IN INDIA-ENGLAND TEST MATCHES B. S. Chandrasekhar's 76 wickets for 1941 runs from 17 Tests, F. S. Trueman's 53 wickets for 787 runs from 9 Tests

MOST CATCHES IN A SERIES Solkar's 12 in 1972-73, Nicholas' 9 in 1933-34 and Greig's 9 in 1972-73

MOST CATCHES IN A MATCH Wadekar's 5 at Birmingham in 1967, Solkar's 5 at Madras in 1972-73, Jardine's 5 at Calcutta in 1933-34, and Greig's 5 at Delhi in 1972-73

MOST CATCHES IN AN INNINGS Wadekar's 4 at Birmingham in 1967.

Our Test record

The Madras Test between India and England, starting on January 14, 1977 — the third in the five-Test series will be India's 150th Test

The following is India's Test record against all countries

v England	48	6	20	22
v Australia	25	3	6	16
v West Indies	37	4	16	17
v Pakistan	15	2	12	1
v New Zealand	22	10	9	3
Total	147	25	63	59

Against England

THE second Test between India and England, scheduled to be played at Calcutta on January 1, 1977 will be the 50th Test between the two countries. The first Test between the two countries was played at Lord's in 1932

The following is India's Test record against England

Year	P	W	D	L
1932 (in Eng)	1	—	—	1
1933-34 (in Ind)	3	—	1	2
1936 (in Eng)	3	—	1	2
1946 (in Eng)	3	—	2	1
1951-52 (in Ind)	5	1	3	1
1952 (in Eng)	4	—	1	3
1959 (in Eng)	5	—	—	5
1961-62 (in Ind)	5	2	3	—
1963-64 (in Ind)	5	—	5	—
1967 (in Eng)	3	—	—	3
1971 (in Eng)	3	1	2	—
1972-73 (in Ind)	5	2	2	1
1974 (in Eng)	3	—	—	3
Total	48	6	20	22
In India	23	5	14	4
In England	25	1	6	18

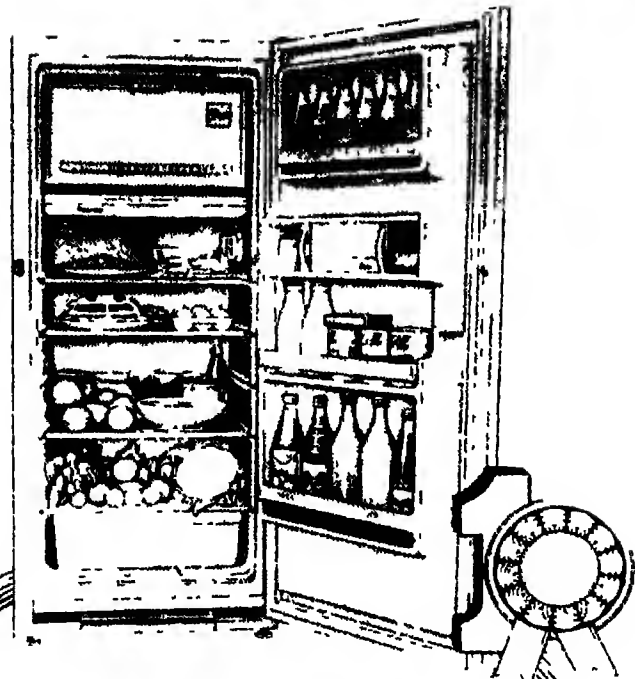
MOST VICTIMS IN A SERIES P. Sen 10 (3 c/7 st) in 1951-52, A. P. E. Knott 16 (15 c/1 st) in 1974

MOST VICTIMS IN AN INNINGS B. K. Kunderan (3 c/2 st) at Bombay in 1961-62, J. T. Murray (6 c) at Lord's in 1967

MOST VICTIMS IN A MATCH B. K. Kunderan (4 c/2 st) at Madras in 1964, A. P. E. Knott (6 c/1 st) at Manchester in 1974.

MOST STUMPINGS IN A MATCH P. Sen five at Madras in 1951-52; T. G. Evans three at Leeds in 1952

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MUTUA

From Down Under

THE PAKISTANI CONNECTION

SYDNEY

WHEN the West Indies cricketers were due to visit Australia last season, the headlines were:

"The Windies are coming, the Windies are coming"

This summer, the headlines—in smaller types — are:

"Mushtaq is coming, Mushtaq is not coming" and "Are Pakistanis coming at all?"

I am writing this in the first week of December, a fortnight before the tour commences. And the confusion here is to be seen to be believed with conflicting reports from Pakistan and Northamptonshire (where Mushtaq resides as a cricket professional), from Pakistan Cricket Board and their Sports Minister. A team has been selected and dissolved or deselected!

The six players who have been labelled "rebels" are Mushtaq Mohammad, who led Pakistan with aplomb against New Zealand, in his maiden series as Pakistani captain to win 2-0, former Test captain Majid Khan and Asif Iqbal, brilliant opening batsman Sadiq Mohammad, Imran Khan and Wasim Bari whom Geoff Boycott reckons as the second best 'keeper in the world today — after Alan Knott

Their demand for a better financial deal for the twin tour to Australia and the West Indies and a threat to boycott the tour if their terms were not agreed upon, led

MUSHTAQ REINSTATED

MUSHTAQ Mohammad was reinstated as captain of Pakistan for the tour of Australia and the West Indies.

Mushtaq replaces Intikhab Alam as skipper of a revised 18-man touring party named by the Pakistan Sports Board, which last weekend dismissed the Pakistan Cricket Board selectors and ordered a new team to be chosen.

The Sports Board also named Asif Iqbal vice-captain instead of Zahir Abbas. However, only one change has been made in the form of the original selection by the Cricket Board. Former Test pacer Asif Masood has been recalled and Aamer Hamud, a little known medium-pace bowler, has been left out. Hamid had been a surprise

by

K. M. MEHER - HOMJI

to their sacking by the Pakistani Cricket Board

But due to the intervention by the Minister of Sports their ban was lifted, they got better financial terms and were selected in the tour party

In between, however, Mushtaq lost his captaincy to Intikhab Alam. This was not acceptable to Mushtaq and he made a public outburst from Northamptonshire

"They bring him (Intikhab) in and out like a football. Mr Kaidar (the Cricket Board President) uses



Mushtaq Mohammad

choice and cricket commentators were unanimous in criticising his inclusion in the team

The Sports Board also conceded to another request by the professionals and dropped Imtiaz Ahmed as team manager, replacing him with Col Shuja-ud-din, who played in 19 Tests for Pakistan between 1954-61

The team is:

Mushtaq Mohammad (captain), Asif Iqbal (vice-captain), Intikhab Alam, Majid Khan, Wasim Bari, Sadiq Mohammad, Imran Khan, Wasim Raja, Zahir Abbas, Javed Miandad, Sarfraz Nawaz, Asif Masood, Saleem Altaf, Taslim Arif, Mudassar Nazar, Haroon Rashid, Iqbal Qasim, Sikandar Bakht

him at his mercy. While I am proud to be able to represent my country in any capacity, my teammates and I cannot understand why I have been released from the captaincy for the forthcoming tour of Australia and the West Indies after such a successful series against New Zealand at home"

What an eventful year this has been for "Mush". Firstly, his benefit season in England for which the President of Pakistan contributed handsomely, then his captaincy debut for Northamptonshire and Pakistan. The former under him won the Gillette Cup, the latter a home Test series. And now this turmoil

Without going into the rights and wrongs of players/administrators/politicians, one fact is clear. Without the six professionals in question, the Pak team would have been crippled. True there is Intikhab — an experienced leader and leg spinner, Zahir Abbas, who had such a marvellous English season when topping the list, Javed Miandad, the batting find of the year, with heavy scoring in his first Test series, Sarfraz Nawaz — an accurate seamer and other cricketers with potential

Too much

But to meet the recent conquerors of England (4-1 and 1-0) and the West Indies (5-1) with six top players missing would be asking a bit much from any side.

Also it would be asking for a miracle to expect matter-of-fact Australian spectators to pack the stands to see virtually a Pakistani 'B' team.

Not that the Australian players are taking Pakistan as easy as they meet this season. They had learnt their lessons in 1972-73. As Greg Chappell writes in 'Australian Cricket' under the heading 'Pakistan Could Have Shot Us To Pieces':

"To this day I am still intrigued how our Australian team whitewashed Pakistan when we took them on here in 1972-73. Truth is, Pakistan had a golden chance to win that series 2-1. They didn't because they didn't know too much about the art of winning Test matches. Yes, you need experience in winning."

Talent aplenty

IN the last four years Australia has more experience in winning than any other cricket-playing country. But the simultaneous retirement of the two Ians — Redpath and Chappell — could create initial problems.

However, the way the Sheffield Shield matches are going this summer, it surely indicates that there is enough rich material in the Australian closet.

Ian Davis of NSW with two centuries — both during crisis and both packed with elegant strokes — appears certain to open for Australia against Pakistan.

At Greg Chappell's request the NSW skipper Doug Walters tried out Rick McCosker at No. 3 position — to take over from where Ian Chappell had left off. And the experiment has been so far fruitful.

Certain

Alan Turner, the successful opener against West Indies, has been scoring erratically for NSW this season. Western Australia's opener Bruce Laird started the season in a blaze of glory and seemed certain to take Redpath's spot but has failed in the last two games.

Greg Chappell has been scoring as brilliantly as ever. More than his 187 for Queensland in the opening match against Victoria, his 92 in the second innings against Western Australia was far more valuable. It was scored despite a fractured finger, against the fury of Dennis Lillee and Mick Malone and it helped to draw the game.

On the debut side is the poor form shown so far by the last year's successful Test debutants

Gary Cosier of South Australia and Graham Yallop of Victoria.

On the positive side has been the outstanding batting performances of Richie Robinson, the skipper and 'keeper of Victoria. He has hit two centuries in four Shield matches so far and aggregated 424 runs averaging 84 — even more than Chappell. His clean batting prompted Sydney sportswriters to suggest to the selectors to include two wicketkeepers in the Australian team — Rodney Marsh behind the sticks and Robinson as a pure No. 5 batsman.

Martin Kent of Queensland and Bob Langer and Kim Hughes of WA have played well without scoring heavily. One of them could be making his Test debut before too long.

The regular bowlers, except Ashley Mallett, have been taking wickets. Lillee has been successful without being fiery. Jeff Thomson looked unfit in the first three games. But against NSW "he bowled his fastest ever" — (and I am quoting Doug Walters) to skittle them out for 71. Thomson had captured seven of them and took 12 wickets in the match. It was

SHIELD TABLE

	P	W	D	L	Pt	Pt	Pt	T
QLD	4	3	1	—	16	16	30	62
WA	4	2	2	—	13	20	20	53
VIC	4	1	—	3	19	13	10	42
NSW	4	2	1	1	4	17	20	41
SA	4	—	—	4	8	15	—	23

Cricketers of the week . . . 29

BIRTHS

December 12: N. E. Haig (Eng) 1887, J. A. J. Christy (SA) 1904, D. W. Begbie (SA) 1914, B. B. Nimbalkar (Ind) 1918, D. G. Phadkar (Ind) 1925, G. M. Guard (Ind) 1925, Wazir Mohammed (Pak) 1929.

December 13: G. F. Glace (Eng) 1850, L. R. Joslin (Aus) 1947.

December 14: D. W. White (Eng) 1935, C. C. Griffith (WI) 1938.

December 15: E. R. H. Toshack (Aus) 1917, K. V. Andrew (Eng) 1929.

December 16: Sir J. B. Hobbs (Eng) 1882, Lal Singh (Ind) 1909,

F. R. Brown (Eng) 1910, S. H. Curnow (SA) 1917.

December 17: K. K. Tarapore (Ind) 1910, S. Mushtaq Ali (Ind) 1914.

December 18: E. W. T. Tindall (NZ) 1910, I. W. Johnson (Aus) 1918.

DEATHS

December 12: R. W. V. Robins (Eng) 1963, J. E. Mills (NZ) 1972.

December 16: S. G. Barnes (Aus) 1973.

December 17: A. N. Hornby (Eng) 1925.

— K. Iswara Dutt

Miller tops

"DAILY MIRROR", Sydney, had started a competition asking its readers to name the cricketer from England or Australia whom they would like to see most at the Centenary Test in Melbourne next March.

Keith Miller topped the list with 15% votes, Sir Donald Bradman came second with 13%. Stan McCabe took the third place. Richie Benaud and Ian Chappell shared the fourth position.

Out of the top 18, there was only one Englishman—Sir Jack Hobbs; other 17 being all Australians. Who says only Indians are partisans?

The winning reader was a 15-year-old Sydney schoolgirl whose name was drawn from a hat. Her favourite? Sexy, "fantastic" Jeff Thomson — who else?

— K. M. M. H.

blistering pace — especially in the first innings when the conditions were favourable to him. Allah save the Pakistanis!

All other pace bowlers Max Walker and Alan Hurst from Victoria, Wayne Prior of South Australia, Gary Gilmour and Dave Colley of NSW have struck form at least once. And struck is right for Gilmour.

Irrked by the critics for calling him fat, unfit and lazy, Gilmour had a memorable game against Queensland. He captured eight wickets in the match and scored a dazzling 115 — against Thomson at his peak!

The only spinner who has been doing well this season is NSW's Kerry O'Keeffe. The discarded leg-spinner is on the verge of a comeback in the Test arena.

The Sheffield Shield has come to the half way mark — each of the five States playing four matches. With no further Shield games till January 8, 1977, Queensland, under G. Chappell, are the leaders with 63 points, a lead of nine points over Western Australia. The last year's champion South Australia — now minus Ian Chappell — is at the bottom of the table.

But the second half of Shield cricket could produce surprises for the Test stars will be in New Zealand at that time.

SPORTSWEFK, December 19, 1976

Prasanna rated high by Aussie skipper

ACCORDING to Bill Lawry and Ian Chappell, E.A.S. Prasanna was the greatest spinner they faced in their entire career.

In a TV cricket short, Richie Benaud asked three



former Aussie captains — Bobby Simpson, Lawry and Ian Chappell — their opinions on contemporary players.

Lawry said that Wes Hall was the fastest bowler of his time, Prasanna the greatest spinner, with Fred Titmus a little behind. Lawry opined that Ian Chappell was the best batsman under any conditions. Ken Barrington would be his second choice.

According to Simpson, Alan Davidson was the brainiest opening bowler and Lance Gibbs was his favourite spinner.

Ian Chappell was of the opinion that John Snow was the most difficult to face among quickies for his balls came at rib level. Prasanna was the best spinner — in India and in Australia.

Both Simpson and Ian Chappell nominated Gary Sobers, Barry Richards and Rohan Kanhai as the most exciting batsmen to watch.

— K M M-H

Another sex-change

CHANDIGARH.

INDIA's star international centre forward Baljit Bhatti will no longer be able to play for the country in women's hockey.

She had represented the country in the women's World Cup hockey tournament in France in 1974.

Reports reaching here from her home town Ludiana reveal that she is changing sex and becoming a 'He', after successful operations in England.

Baljit represented India in hockey while still in school. Besides she excelled in Kabaddi, athletics, shot put and javelin.

"She plays like a boy", exclaimed all who saw this tall and slim girl in action during hockey matches in late 1973 and early 1974.

Now, after a series of successful operations, Baljit,

now 20, is fast developing into a young man and the doctors treating 'her' in England are of the opinion that 'he' might one day play men's hockey as "Mr Singh".

— M P. VERMA



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The Durand scandal

by ARIJIT SEN

CALCUTTA:

REACTION to the arithmetical force in the Durand Cup tournament is intensely heated in Calcutta. And, for once, giants Mohun Bagan and East Bengal are equally exercised by the sordid clique operating between north Indian sides. While the ouster of East Bengal can be attributed to ill-luck, the easing out of Mohun Bagan is a travesty of all that sportsmanship stands for.

A local fan who visited Delhi and watched the tournament up to the semi-final stage, said a day before the JCT-Leaders match, everyone was talking about the result. It had become an open secret that the two teams had decided on a result that would get Mohun Bagan out. And that is just what happened. Leaders, who were drubbed 3-1 by Mohun Bagan, beat JCT 4-2. That was the only result that would have got Mohun Bagan out of the championship.

One must say the manager of the Mohun Bagan team, international Sailen Manna—who played the game when the basic tenets of sportsmanship were followed in letter and spirit—has conducted himself well. He refused to comment on the JCT-Leaders result when asked by pressmen in Delhi. Even in Calcutta, he merely said he had made a request to officials of the tournament committee to have the JCT-Leaders match played before the Mohun Bagan-Dempo tie. One official approached a JCT

man, talking about Mohun Bagan's apprehension. It was laughed away as being preposterous. The result of the match only proved how low the moral standards on the field are, today.

But the saddest part is that the clique was accepted by the Delhi press without a murmur. It is too difficult to believe that journalists are unaware of what is taking place on the field, when the Mohun Bagan players, who were seeing the JCT-Leaders match, left the field even before it ended, because

they knew what the result was going to be.

This is not to suggest that there was any kind of connivance. Far from it, because the Durand committee is a tough nut. But, perhaps because it is based in Delhi, the "home" of Punjab in more senses than one, the committee found it difficult to believe that the locals would enter into a shoddy deal.

The question is: Where does one go from here?

Brazil step backwards

by DAVID MILLER

RIO DE JANEIRO:

CAN the unthinkable happen—a World Cup finals without Brazil for the first time since the war?

That is the question South American football is asking, under its breath, after Brazil's shoddy 2-0 friendly win here against Russia recently.

The bizarre possibility is that, unless Brazil show substantial improvement within the next two months, they could be eliminated—and England still in with a chance of qualifying when the two countries meet here on June 8.

A mere 50,000 crowd in the

200,000 capacity Maracana stadium booed Brazil off the field after a dull, defensive game which second-half goals by Falcao and Zicu—the newest "new" Pele—could not rescue from severe criticism.

Since winning the United States bicentennial tournament six months ago—beating England, Team America and Italy with flashes of their former style—Brazil have gone backward.

Now manager Osvaldo Brandao, over 60 and facing public demands for his replacement, must somehow lift the team for their qualifying matches against Colombia and Paraguay next February and March.

RECORD BOOK.

IT was May 26, 1934. The sun scorched down on the beautiful Prestwick golf course on the west coast of Scotland, where the 36-holes final of the British Amateur Championship was being decided.

The contestants were 30-year-old James Wallace, Scottish shipwright from the nearby Troon Club, and Lawson Little, 24-year-old University student from California.

The hopes of all Scotland were in the capable hands of Wallace, after his wonderful golf during the earlier rounds of the championship.

The two men set off on the first of their two rounds at an early hour, so that the American could catch a boat home later that day... and from the first dew-wet green he played runaway golf.

He won the first hole, halved the second, and won the next five. He was playing like a machine.

Wallace was powerless to make any counter-attack, and the longer the round lasted the more demoralised the Scot seemed to become.

As the sun rose higher and the temperature grew warmer, the hopes of the enthusiastic Scottish gallery dropped lower and lower. Yet the Scots could not help but admire and applaud the American's immaculate driving and putting.

Lawson Little was six up after nine holes. Wallace tried everything he knew to put a better complexion on the scoreboard, but there was no stopping the man-in-a-hurry.

The young American was 12 up at the end of the first 18 holes, with a total score of 66 shots—six under par 72 for the 6,531 yards course. It was sensational golf.

When the second round began the gallery had swelled to around 8,000. Wallace dropped the first

hole, halved the next two, and hopes began to rise again.

But not for long. The young American was in ruthless form. He won the fourth to put him 14 up and halved the next... and that was the end. There was no need for any more...

After only 23 of the 36 holes Lawson Little had won the 1934 British Amateur Championship by the "massacre" score of 14 up and 13 to play.

It was a championship record, the biggest victory by a male golfer in any national championship.

Little did not lose one of the 23 holes played and his drives and approach shots were so accurate that he need only 36 putts in his score of 82.

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Mankad comes in from the cold

AHMEDABAD will remember the MCC-President's XI match for two fighting knocks Ashok Mankad played while he was axed from the Indian Test team. Both came during crises but his 32 not out in the second innings was even better than his 51 not out in the first. It had some dazzling strokes and it saved the Board President's XI after they had come close to defeat.

On the night of the second day of this three-day match the national selectors announced that they had dropped Mankad when they named the 14 for the first Test against England. Less than two hours earlier he and Parthasarathy Sharma had saved the Pre-

Bharat Reddy scattered the clinching fields with aggressive batting. They stayed through eight overs, raising 41 runs in 37 minutes, and Mankad's strokeplay thrilled the senses.

There were two beautifully timed drives off Underwood in one over which yielded 10 runs. One was down the straight field, the other to extra-cover. When the match was over, its honours shared, there was a standing ovation from the crowd. The MCC players also joined in the applause.

The omission of Mankad encourages the speculation that the selectors might want to play Sharma in the Tests. Sharma got a plucky century to shore up the

until the batsmen played indiscreet shots that he looked capable of taking a wicket. Vengsarkar sliced a cut-drive with his body well away from the bat and gave a catch to second slip in the first innings before he had scored. Yajurvindra Singh probably got an inside edge to one which did not move away as much as he expected.

Vengsarkar looked a good batsman in the second innings in making 29. Twice he flicked Old off his toes to the square-leg boundary and a straightdrive off Selvey made it clear that the first innings failure was an aberration. The accent on defence probably cut short his second innings.

He should come back to the Test side, of course. But Chauhan must have had his last big chance of making good. In the first innings he was committed to playing Old and the ball swung just enough to take a thin edge. A breakback by Selvey skittled him out in the second and he did not play one stroke that could have strengthened his claim for Test return.

Brijesh is an enigma. When he starts attacking the bowling there are few sights in Indian cricket as thrilling. But unaccountably he gets bogged down. It happened in both innings here. He played a flurry of strokes and retreated into his shell and got out.

This MCC side is certainly strong in fielding. Derek Randall and Graham Barlow chased everything and were as eager in the evening as when they had started the day. Battingwise, the match must have satisfied them both. Barlow got a hundred in the first innings and Randall 47 not out in the second with a chance at 17. Brearley made 59 and impressed with his driving.

Brearley, I thought, was the best organised MCC batsman on view. Barlow might not get many runs when he comes up against the best of Indian spin. The President's XI attack had only one class spinner, Prasanna. Ashwin Minna was awed by the company and bowled too short and this particularly helped the MCC wriggle off the hook. Even in his 80s Barlow was far from happy and had there been Padmakar Shivalkar in this side MCC might not have had such a good outing.

After losing five wickets for 196 runs, of all the persons, Ghavri engineering a collapse from 174 for one, the President's XI just did not have the bowlers to press the advantage. Geoff Miller and Roger Tolchard, using their feet, saw to it that the President's XI's march ended there.

—SW Correspondent



Skipper Prasanna leads the Board President's XI on to the field

sident's XI first innings from being a washout.

That announcement must have been the coldest draught of a cold, wintry day. But it did not deter Mankad from playing one of his finest innings this ground has seen when the next evening the President's XI tethered on the brink.

Asked to get 204 runs in 95 minutes and 20 overs, President's XI had set their sights on a draw. Then all of a sudden Chris Old, changing ends for his second spell, grabbed three quick wickets and with 103 overs remaining President's XI were five down for 91.

Until now Old had been erratic. The outswinger repeatedly bowled well outside the offstump could do little harm. But now he improved his control and began to cut the ball into the batsmen. In a seven over spell he sent back Sharma, Dilip Vengsarkar and Karsan Ghavri for 16 runs. Mike Selvey had earlier dismissed Chetan Chauhan and now Derek Underwood chipped in with Brijesh Patel's wicket.

An MCC victory looked a distinct possibility but Mankad and

President's XI first innings on the second afternoon. He showed grit playing through more than five hours for 111 and hit some gorgeous drives, both off the back-foot and the front, but was quite ill at ease against the pacemen.

At the start of his innings he was repeatedly beaten outside the offstump. He gave two chances, at four and 57, the first a straight-forward one which Miller dropped at leg slip and the tall Greig dived to get a touch to the second. Both times it was John Lever who suffered but against the spin of Underwood, Miller and Greig, Sharma was fluent, very fluent.

Of the three fast bowlers the MCC played in this match, Selvey was easily more impressive than either Old or Lever. Brought in as first change, for Old, Selvey got a wicket in his first over in each innings. His greater control and ability to swing the ball either way must weigh heavily in his favour when the MCC pick their team for the Test.

The left-arm Lever, bowling a diagonal line, made the ball swing away considerably. But it was not

MCC AT AHMEDABAD



Graham Barlow drives on his way to his second century of the tour. Below: Brijesh Patel is caught by Chris Old, off Underwood



Bharat Reddy's appeal for lbw against Derek Randall, off Chavri is upheld by the umpire



Pics :
SHANT
SHAH



Chris Old lifts Sharma but was caught by Prasanna in the second innings



Dennis Amis drives. Below: Ashok Mankad drops Randall, off Minna

Arthasathya Sharma turns Underwood to leg on his way to the century. The non-striker is Ashok Mankad



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Prakash in good form

NEW DELHI

THE Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Badminton Tournament held after a lapse of six years was a welcome addition to the capital's sports calendar. The sport had been languishing for lack of patronage for some time now. The local association had in fact been disaffiliated because of non-payment of dues. Fortunately, some three years ago, a band of young and dedicated workers got together, collected funds, paid off most of the dues, got the association affiliated and even started holding the state championships, and then rightly became ambitious and worked hard to revive the Nehru Badminton championships.

It was rather easy for them this year and for obvious reasons. And with most of the association members politically inclined, there was no dearth of either money or official help.

The tournament was thus a success and more so because it was held immediately after the Asian Championships in Hyderabad. A number of top-ranked players automatically extended their stay in the country and flew in to the Capital to lend colour and status to the tourney.

Success in publicity is a different thing than organisational efficiency. Unfortunately, the local association members, some of them at least, misused their authority



Bandid Jaiyen

in their excitement of being responsible for holding such a big meet.

Without waiting for the senior officials of the Badminton Federation of India to arrive, they made the draw and swelled the programme by needlessly including a number of local stars, ex-stars, have-beens and others. It was quite dishonest of them, to say the least. Some of those who played in the tournament have never been seen in action even in the Delhi State and some of them would certainly not have made even the first round in the qualifying matches in the nationals. Still it was their show and they fully exploited their authority.

But, surely, they could have made sure of fair play to some of the foreign participants, particularly Sweden's Ola Erickson and Nordon who were drawn to play Bandid Jaiyen (the eventual winner) and Padukone Prakash (finalist), respectively, on the opening day itself. It was indeed a pity, while lesser lights were drawn and given a favourable and even easy draw, the Swedes were treated badly.

Erickson and Nordon had no time thus to adjust to the change

in temperature and were out on the opening day itself, though Erickson almost pulled off an upset, stretching Bandid Jaiyen to three games. Erickson was superb at the net and his top physical condition gave him a distinct edge over his Thai opponent. Erickson surprised the Thai capturing the first game at 13 but then the Thai slowed the pace and won through but with great difficulty, the final scores being 13-15, 15-5, 15-13.

It would be interesting to speculate as to the final outcome of the meet if Erickson had been given a couple of warming up matches. He certainly deserved to win against Jaiyen. The other Swede, Nordon, was unlucky to meet Prakash of India and lost tamely. Though not in the same class as Erickson, he was certainly better than a number of local luminaries. Later in the evening, the Swedes played their doubles and that too against Indonesians, Dameron and Suharit. They made it a close and thrilling affair before going down in three games. Dameron and Suharit won 15-2, 12-15, 15-5.

India's Padukone Prakash had some exciting moments, his best match being against the superb Sumirat in the semi-finals where he pulled up from a hopeless situation, with Sumirat serving, in the third game at 14-10. It was splendid badminton all through, Sumirat on top in the first game,

continued on p 29



He Sumirat



Prakash Padukone

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Tennis notes

Connors hits the pot of gold

IRON-MAN Jimmy Connors picked up the pot of gold recently when he won the first Benson and Hedges Championship at Wembley despite a twisted ankle and a pulled back muscle.

He beat big-serving Roscoe Tanner, the man who knocked him out of Wimbledon five months ago, with one of the grittiest performances the Empire Pool has seen.

Henry Cooper, Billy Walker and Joe Bugner have heroically shrugged off pain on their way to boxing glory in the hall, but never for two hours and four minutes as Connors did in clawing his way to a 3-6, 7-6, 6-4 success.

His immediate rewards were a cheque for £12,500, a gold cigarette box and his name inscribed first on the 15 in gold trophy.

He also made 8,000 friends in the capacity crowd, who roared in salute as he hit the final high cross court volley to settle the contest.

Tanner, whose game is built round his 140 miles an hour serve, hit Connors with a total of 18 aces during the match and lost a service game only once, to go 4-3 down in the final set.

He smashed and volleyed with spectacular accuracy. But even that was not enough to upset Connors' intense concentration.

His biggest crisis came in the second set, at 4-4 and 0-40 down.

Said Connors: "I was one shot away from being on the 4 p.m. plane home. Roscoe had hit three good shots but I got lucky with a forehand across court."



Jimmy Connors

But Connors had more than luck. He had the skill to fend off four more break points before taking that game for a 5-4 lead.

He hung on to earn a tie-breaker at 6-6, then powered his way to success in that by eight points to six to square the match.

Tanner later partnered fellow American Stan Smith in the doubles final where they beat Wojtek Fibak and Brian Gottfried 7-6, 6-3.

COMMERCIAL UNION stage the last major tennis event of the year — the £80,000 Masters in Houston. But there is not a master in sight, writes Barry Newcombe.

Wimbledon champion Bjorn Borg, United States champion Jimmy Connors, French champion Adriano Panatta of Italy, and defending Masters champion Ilie Nastase, of Romania, are all missing.

Places in the eight man field are determined by points won in tournaments through the year and, apart from Connors, the other three simply did not gain enough points.

The Masters has been hit by the emergence of lucrative exhibition events which have attracted the big names for which the Masters was so clearly designed.

Masters — with not a master in sight

by IAN BARNES

While Borg and Nastase have played exhibition tennis, they have failed to collect any points from the tournament circuit. Connors has simply refused to play saying that his tournament commitments are over for the year.

"We had hoped that Connors and Borg would play to decide who is world No. 1," said a Masters spokesman. "But Borg stopped playing tournaments and then at the last minute, Connors is out."

"We haven't sold a ticket in Houston for three days, since Connors announced his withdrawal."

The eight who will compete are Mexico's Raul Ramirez, who won the Grand Prix and £90,000, Harold Solomon, Eddie Dibbs, Brian Gottfried and Roscoe Tanner, of the United States, Wojtek Fibak, of Poland, Manuel Orantes, of Spain and Guillermo Vilas, of Argentina.

Nehru Badminton

from p 27

Prakash in control in the second and winning the final game after being in the dumps. Prakash had another great match, the final against Bandid Jayen and this time the fate which befell Sumirat in the semi-finals consumed Prakash, the Indian serving for the match and losing it to the brilliant Thai. A notable incident here was Prakash's fine gesture as a sportsman. He was leading 2-0 and 15-13 in the extended third game when Bandid's return beat him. The linesman gave it as "out," Prakash thought otherwise and when the referee backed the linesman's decision, Prakash deliberately served out. With that incident one was resigned quite happily to Prakash losing the match. It was a wonderful gesture and everyone appreciated it.

Among the women, Indonesia's Verawaty beat her colleague Sriyanti 11-2, 11-8 in the second game after a tough fight. The top-seed dropped only one game in the whole tournament and that was to India's Lata Kailash.

It is to the credit of the senior BFI officials, who worked round the clock to make this tourney a success, particularly after the confusion of the first day. Even then the final day's programme was somewhat spoiled by the local organisers shuffling the schedule without a thought to the players. In order to enable their luminary to witness the men's singles, they rescheduled the programme and played the main match as the last tie. The men's singles, in fact, was the third match in the five-match card.

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Davis Cup



Anand (left) and Vijay Amritraj are all smiles in anticipation of their easy victory in the doubles against Kamiwazumi and Hirai



Anand Amritraj, hero of India's 3-2 victory, swoops into a backhand volley against Hirai on the opening day

India v Japan



A backhand winner by Jun Kamiwazumi in the doubles tie. Hirai looks on

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Being raw has its advantages. You have more scope to learn both through observation and through the guidance of others, especially coaches. At least this has been my experience from the time I started kicking the ball about while studying at the Sree Rama Varma High School at Ernakulam till today. With boys of my neighbourhood who attended the same school I played with more enthusiasm than any refined skill. Looking back I feel a little ashamed at how crude were my efforts.

I do not think I would have been much better but for the opportunity of watching leading teams of the country in action in the Nehru Trophy at Ernakulam. Calcutta clubs like Kidderpore Sporting and Services units like the EME Centre (Secunderabad) and MEG (Bangalore) had several fine exponents of the game. It was an education to watch Gautam Saikar, Prasun Banerjee, Chandrasekar Prasad, Chathunni, Ethiraj, Inder Singh and several others.

But watching them and being impressed by their skills was one thing, to emulate was a totally different matter. That was much harder. But I was quietly determined to do my best to reach their level.

More significant to my progress was the formation of Udaya Sports Club and their entering the Ernakulam "B" Division League in 1969. We won the title in our debut and played in the "A" Division from 1970. It is a club run by students and produced some outstanding players who, however, opted to concentrate more on their studies and career. At Udaya, we met the costs of running the team by organising a tournament and bringing out a souvenir.

With Udaya I was a right-half, the position I occupied till I signed on for Premier Tyres, who began building up a team late in 1971. With Kerala State players Jaffar and K. P. Williams as the midfield pair in the Premier Tyres side I was switched to right back. When former Olympian, Bengali and Mohun Bagan stalwart deep defender Abdul Rehman took over as the first coach at Premier Tyres in 1972 he shifted me to right in back and at times back to right-wing back when Jaffar was brought back to right in back to lend experience and stability to the centre.

Rehman, perhaps, felt that as a new team it would be better for our central defenders to cut out the risks that go with trying to play pretty and constructive football.

But as we gained in confidence

Rehman allowed us to hold the ball and play out of the defence with controlled passes. This was something I relished for I had been a wing half and in that position had learnt to appreciate the skills that go to build up attacks. Success boosted our confidence further. For three years from 1972 Premier Tyres won the Ernakulam League title, it was not held the next year. Premier won the Kaumudi Trophy inter district championship in 1973.

With players like K. P. Williams, Jaffar, Ramakrishnan and Usman Koya around me at Premier Tyres I kept improving. And when I was called for the camp to pick the Kerala team for the Santosh Trophy to be held at Ernakulam in December 1973 the presence of my club colleagues was reassuring. Incidentally I never played for Kerala in the Junior National, as for some reason or other I could not attend the camps to pick the teams. It was at the camp for the Ernakulam National that I was



tried out as left back. Coach Sime Sunderraj, a former Olympian, apparently was satisfied with my performances in training and trial games to field me in that position from the second game onwards.

I will always have happy memories of my first National. Not only did it give me satisfaction of playing before my home fans—though I am not usually unnerved by the crowd I still found it a relief to play on a ground I was most familiar with, but also because I proved to myself that I could play competently in a new position. And to crown it all Kerala won the

Santosh Trophy for the first and to date only, time.

My displays in the Ernakulam National earned me a call to the camp at Pattala to pick the teams for the 1974 Asian Youth as well as the Asian Games. I made the team to the Asian Youth at Bangkok, where India finished as joint champions with Iran. In this tournament I played in my old position of right back. At right half was Karnataka's Devraj and he let me frequently advance down the wing and join in the attack.

But against Iran this was not advisable. For, as our coaches, Arun Ghosh and Abdus Salam, pointed out Iran had two speedy, clever wingers besides strong players in other positions, all of whom needed close watching. So we had to play a tight man to man marking defence against the defending champions and favourites. My speed — I was a fair sprinter at college — and tenacity helped me in neutralising the Iran left winger. The same traits also enabled me to cover well and twice race back and clear on the goalline, one of them during extra time.

At the end of the Asian Youth tournament I was one of the two Indians to be chosen for the All Asian Youth side by the sports journalists covering the tournament, the other being Punjab's Harjinder Singh. Like my first National, my first international tournament will always be mentorable to me.

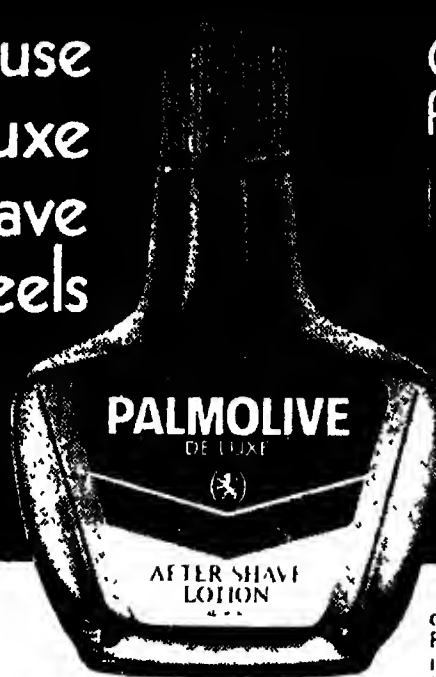
In the next Asian Youth in Kuwait unfamiliar conditions of heat and glare of the morning cast us the game against Yemen. We never fully got back into our stride though we played well before losing to Burma. We gained some consolation by defeating our pool winners, South Korea, in our last match.

In February this year I joined the Customs and Central Excise, Cochin. But I have been away for most of the year being in the camp at Pattala before being chosen for the senior India team for the Jaisan Celebrations tournament in Kabul and then for the Merdeka, where I was taken in by the skill of Malaysians striker Mokhtar Dahari, the South Korean wing halves Beung Duck and Young Moo, the Malaysian captain and centre back, Soh Chin Aun — a cool player who never seems to have to tackle because of his fine positioning, and Burmese right winger Kyt Lwin among many others. I was also in the team for the Park Cup in Seoul, but here I played at left in back. Karnataka's young Shekar, who broke his leg against us in the Rovers recently, was left back.

Text: Sharp Shooter
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CLOSING DATE: 4th JAN

Results will be published in the issue of Sportswweek dated 16th Jan '77.

If more than one correct entry is received, the prizes will be shared by lot among the winners. The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence will be entertained.

POWERLIFTING.

Wrong has been set right

by ARIJIT SEN

JUSTICE has prevailed, after all. The World Powerlifting Federation has finally — and once for all — selected the Indian Powerlifting Federation as the sole Indian associate in the international body. The Indian Weightlifting Federation's bid to nose in at a crucial stage to foist a membership on the world body has been firmly dealt with.

The Indian Powerlifting Federation had been formed much earlier than the "wing" created by the IWF. The IPF had organised two nationals before the World Powerlifting Championship, held in York, Pennsylvania (USA) from November 5 to 7. It was, in the normal course, granted membership of the international body.

The IWF, knowing the circumstances under which the world body had given the IPF recognition, also applied for it, saying that it was recognised by the Indian Government, was a constituent member of the Indian Olympic Association and had been in existence for a long time. Going by its State member-

ship, the IWF claimed that it had far more States under its wing than the IPF, although this membership was obviously for weight lifting from each other.

The IWF was granted provisional membership of the world body on the strength of its claim, but only until the World Powerlifting Congress was held during the championship. Finally, in York, the IWF application for membership was rejected and that of the IPF made permanent.

The IPF has thus crossed its major hurdle, after a struggle lasting a year. Already beset with problems of finance, the IWF's need less foray into a truly foreign field further complicated matters for the IPF.

After the inaugural Calcutta Nationals, the IPF set a date for the second Nationals at Nagpur in order to select a squad for the November Worlds. In the meantime the IWF stepped in with a parallel National. It managed to muster several constituent units because most of them did not know the actual position of the IPF. On the strength of this performance,

also conducted in Calcutta to slight the IPF, the IWF claimed to be representative.

But the world body obviously saw through this game and disposed of the matter properly — and justly. With its hands strengthened, the IPF will go ahead with its plans to popularise the sport.

The IPF had sent a five-member team led by its Secretary, Manoj Bose, to participate in the worlds. Here are the results of the Indians taking part in the 13 nation championship.

56 kg class Subroto Dutta placed seventh.

60 kg class Ratan Kumar Basak placed seventh.

67.5 kg class Basudev Das placed ninth.

Light heavyweight Kamalaksha Amin placed seventh.

100 kg class Jagraj S Mann placed eighth.

The captain of the team was Subroto Dutta. Jagraj had represented India in the shot put event at the Munich Olympics.

WEIGHTLIFTING

Three medals for Bala

A FIVE-MEMBER Indian weightlifting team's tour of Turkey and USSR, under the Cultural Exchange Programmes, was highly successful. The weightlifters have not only brought with them a collection of medals but also valuable hints imparted to them by the chief Russian coach at a ten-day coaching camp held in Rega.

The national middleweight champion and Madurai's pride, K. Balamuruganandam, with a worthy bag of three bronze medals, has brought glory to India at the weightlifting championships held in Ankara (Turkey) and Latvia Republican Championships at Rega in USSR. In the Ankara championships, six nations, including Poland and Hungary participated. Bala, as he is fondly known here, returned to Madurai last week.

Though Dalbir Singh of the Railways 'wrested' the silver in the super-heavyweight, Bala's bronze-snatching effort was laudable. For, in the super-heavyweight class there were just two competitors, the winner being Ali Tan of Turkey and 280. Dalbir's total was 260, the



Balamuruganandam

key, who won the event at 130, 150 snatch and clean jerk being 115 and 145, respectively.

In a very tough field of five, Bala managed to claim the bronze with lifts of 115, 145 and 260 — though much below his national record of 267.5. At the Latvia Republican

championship in Rega, where India alone were invited, Bala won two bronze medals for his clean and jerk efforts of 147.5 and the total of 262.5. In the same championships (Rega), Service's Jai Vittal bettered the Indian flyweight snatch record of 90 kg held by Lod Chowdry, with a record lift of 92.5, 105 and 197.5 to claim the gold.

A soft-spoken and unassuming chemical engineering graduate of the Annamalai University, Balamuruganandam has been exhibiting a startlingly consistent improvement. The following statistics would reveal this fact: his record shattering effort on the year of his entry to the nationals at Jabalpur was 112.5, 142.5 and 255; at Hyderabad nationals in 1974 — 118, 145 and 263; at Ernakulam — 112.5, 152.5 and 265. His career-best snatch effort of 155 kg at the Madurai District championships last year sadly missed its entry into the record book for the Indian Weightlifting Federation discarded it on technical grounds.

He was good in athletics too. He bettered the shot put record for boys under 18 in the 1967 State meet with an effort of 13.8 mt.



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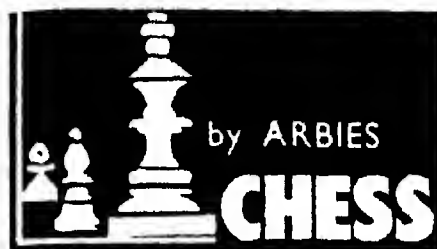
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THE old fashioned treatment of the Dragon Variation of Sicilian Defence is now rarely seen in master play, for after 2 NQB3 White does not allow it. In this game Nasir Ali gives it an unsuccessful trial.

SICILIAN DEFENCE
White S Nasir Ali
Black R Ravi Sekhar
(Accumax Tournament
Bombay, 1976)

1. PK4, PQB4 2. NKB3, NQB3
3. PQ1, PXP 4. NXP, NB3 5. NQR3
PQ3 6. BK2 (a), PKN3 7. BK3
BN2 8. 00, 00 9. NN3 (b) BK3 10.
PB4, QB1 11. PKR3, RQ1 12. BB3
(c) PQR4 (d) 13. NQ5, NO2 14.
PB3, PR5 15. NQ1, QBXN 16. PNB
NXX 17. BXXN BXBch 18. PNB (c)

18 17
A 132
2
K Q 76
A 109
K 76
O 1103
s 43
1
O 1108
985
110982
K Q 76
95
A K 764
A

A SPADE slam looks very on the N/S cards doesn't it? Well see what a tricky defence can do to wreck it. The declarer was a veteran player with many National Laurels to his credit, whilst the defenders were a casual rubber bridge partnership.

The Diamond Queen lead was won in hand, East playing the nine spot. Declarer, naturally planned to ruff two diamonds on the hand and pitch a diamond and a heart on dummy's club honours.

At trick two South led a diamond ruffing low in dummy, East playing the five spot, and pulled a spade to his Queen, on which West nonchalantly played the ten. Declarer now cashed his club Ace and played a third diamond ruffing with dummy's knave. Do you blame him? Declarer assumed that if the spades split three-one, East would have the tripleton Ace. Moreover, after the diamond peter on his right, he could hardly risk ruffing low. The result was

QB2 19 RB1, QN3 (1) 20. RK1, RK1 21 RB2, NB3 22 PB5, (g) RR4 23 PXP, RPXP, 24. PR4, NXP 25. PR5, NB5 26 PXP, NXP 27. QQ2, KN2 (h) 28. BXP, RKR1 29. BK4, PB4 30. BB3, RR5 31. RB4, PK4 32. PKN4? (i), PK5 33. PXP, RXP (j) 34. BN2, PQ4 35. RB3, QQ3 36. BR3, RB6 37. R(1)K3, QN6ch 38. QN2, RxB White resigns

(a) The present trend is to prevent the Dragon Variation (6 PKN3) by 6. BQB4 (Sofin Attack) or 6. BKN5 (Richter Attack)

(b) On 9. KR1 or PKR3 or PB3 9. PQ4 gives Black equality. 9. PB1 is met by 9. QN3! 10. QQ3, NKN5 11. NQ5 BXXN 12. NXX, BXBch and 13. BXXQ with three minor pieces for Queen.

(c) Alternatives are 12. NQ4, NXXN 13. BXXN BB5 14. PB5, PQ4 15. PK5 and 12. PN1, PQ4 13. PK5 NK5 14. NXXN PXXN 15. QK1

(d) Ravi Sekhar goes out of the book first. The usual continuation 12. BB5 13. RB2, PQ4

(e) Reasonable was 18. OXB QB4 19. KRQ1 going for the end game.

(f) The Queen manoeuvre (c) is



by JIMMY MEHTA

Gratitude for him. Down on a table down hand.

If West captures the spade Queen with his Ace, as I think most players would, declarer has no chance of going astray. West was Navin Patel and East P. S. Masand both from Bombay. Don't you think they cooperated to produce a diabolically deceptive defence?

He... another hand where a

How much do you know?

1. What should be the radius of the circle in the centre of the football field?
2. Of what material are the balls in ball badminton made of?
3. Is pulling from the hang in the two hands snatch lift allowed?
4. Which is the only piece on the chess board that can only move forward?

White PQ4 and PQN2 under constant threat.

(g) Creating complications 22. R(2)K2, RR4 23. RXP RAR 24. RXR, NXP is no good as White has too many Pawn weakness.

(h) Black gives up the QNP to prevent the entry of the White Queen and prepares to take the KR-file.

(i) Desperate He could have tried 12. RN4 or PKN3.

(j) Ravi Sekhar did not like 33. PxB 34. QN5, but this should also win 34. PB7ch 35. KXP, RXP 36. QXR, RB5ch as shown post mortem. If in reply to the text move 34. BXP? Ravi Sekhar intended 34. RN5ch 35. BN2, NB5 winning the Bishop.

(k) White has no adequate defence to the mate threats now.

Last week's problem by S. N. Ravi Sanka.

White Kh6, Qb3, Rc4, Ne7 Pg6
Black Kh8, Qe8, Ra8, Ne6, Pe5
White to play and mate in 4.

1. Rc8 Rxc8 (or 1. Qf8ch 2. Rxf8ch Rxf8 3. Pg7ch Nxf7 4. Ng6 mate) 2. Pg7ch Nxf7 3. Qg8ch, Qxg8 4. Ng6 mate.

duck created problems for declarer though of a different sort. Try playing the hand as declarer.

XX
Axx
Axxx
Jhxx
N

Axxx
Kxx
Qx
KQxx

Against silent opposition, you reach "3NT". If Queen is led, ducked all round and the continuation of a low heart won in hand. The club King fetches the ten on your left and the deuce on your right. A second club to the knave finds West discarding a low spade. East takes the club Ace and exits with the S Queen. West following suit. What is your best chance? Until next week.

When a hockey umpire slightly raises a leg and touches it with the hand, what is he signalling?

Can a second give in for his boxer once the referee has started counting after a knock down?

What should be the length of a squash racket?

ANSWERS

1. 9.15 metres 2. Wrist No
Pawn 5, Kicks 6 No 7. No
not exceed 27 ins.

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by CHATTERBOX

Q WHAT is your advice to young cricketers?
— V. P. Mani (Madras-59)

A GET to know the selectors. They can make or mar you

Q WHO are knocking at the door of Test selection in India today?
— D S Bukkam (Mashel, Goa)

A DILIP VENGSAKAR and he must be battering his head Maharashtra's Yajurvindra Singh is about the only other prospect

Q HOW many wickets have been bagged by B S Chandrasekhar in Test matches till today?
— K Natarajan (Bombay 89)

A WITH 17 from the recent series against New Zealand, Chandia has taken his tally to 175

Q WHEN will India be playing a Test series again with Pakistan?
— Manzoor Ahmed Hakim (Srinagar)

A ALLAH jane

Q FILM actor Vinod Khanna looks like E A S Prasanna. Are they related?
— L. Prakash Kumar (Bangalore)

YOU ought to see a dentist, sorry, optician

Q WHO was at the crease with Chandu Borde when India beat Australia at the Brabourne Stadium in 1964?
— Sudhir K. Atre (Bombay 55)

A K S Indrajitsingh

Q WHEN did wicketkeeper F M Engineer make his Test debut?
— Subodh Khare (Lucknow)

A IN the second Test against England at Kanpur in 1961

Q HOW many centuries has Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi scored in Tests and what is his highest score?
— Ajay Dua (New Delhi), Barjesh K. Sud (Jammu Tawi) and S H S (Amraoti)

A SIX—three against England, two against New Zealand and one against Australia. His highest is 203 not out against England in the fourth Test at New Delhi in 1964. In 46 Tests, Pataudi scored 2793 runs at an average of 34.91.

Q WHY can't you give prizes for the best question every week?
— Shanker Prasad (Kanchinadka)

A DON'T I have enough problems as it is?

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The victorious Punjab Police team with the cup

Nehru Hockey-

Premier meet, a poor show

THE Nehru Hockey Tournament, the country's premier hockey meet was a poor show, hockey-wise and umpiring-wise. The nation's top teams were there and nearly all the top players too but somehow barring a couple of matches, the fare dished out was one of the poorest seen in many years.

Apart from the general decline in the standard of the game one of the main reasons for the poor fare was the bad umpiring.

This is not to say that the umpiring was partial but there were too many glaring examples of poor judgement. One thing our umpires must remember. Controlling the game is quite different from interfering with it. Too much whistling can spoil the rhythm of the proceedings. It also has an adverse effect on the players.

And to cap it all, Maj Gen H K Bakshi, one of the umpires in the final between Army Service Corps and Punjab Police was a bit too arbitrary and set a rare precedent in the annals of the game in the world.

As was expected the teams were keyed up for the occasion and tempers too were a bit frayed. And General Bakshi certainly did not help in the matter by ordering a

penalty stroke when the ASC players proved a little too excited to allow the penalty corner to be taken. They ran out too fast once too often and General Bakshi promptly made the penalty-corner into a penalty-stroke. Mohinder Singh converted it and this was the only goal in the match. Punjab Police were thus the unpopular winners.

What really galls everyone is that General Bakshi was not really consistent in applying this rule. Defenders do rush out during penalty-corners but there must be some yardstick for enforcing this rule. But it was the only occasion in the tournament and of all the times, it was applied in the final. And more than that, it fetched the only goal of the match.

If the umpires are to take subterfuge in this rule then I am quite sure that penalty-corners will never be taken anywhere.

That incident apart Punjab Police were one of the best teams from the quarter-final league onwards. But they had to struggle to reach the semi-finals.

They drew their first two matches, against Northern Railway and CRPF and managed to eke out a 1-0 win over a disorganised Indian Airlines team. This gave them four points but Northern who mana-

ged to get two goals in against Indian Airlines, in what appeared to a "fix", topped the pool, leaving Punjab Police and CRPF to play-off to decide the second team in the pool. Punjab Police won 1-0.

In the other pool, Border Security Force drew all their three matches and were left in the lurch when Western Railway and Army Service Corps played out a one-one draw. This enabled both teams to reach the semi-finals. They each had four points.

The double leg semi-finals did not evoke much interest, hockey-wise. Punjab Police beat Northern Railway on both occasions, while ASC after drawing their first-leg match beat Western Railway 3-2 in the second leg. The tie-breaker had to be enforced.

One felt sorry to see the plight of the once-famous Indian Airlines team. Barring Surjit and Misbah in the defence and Govinda, Monappa and Ashok Kumar upfront, the entire team was new. And they just did not click and the Airlines further blundered when they played Northern Railway without either Surjit or Govinda.

Of the other teams, BHEL with a number of promising youngsters in fact they were the best team, impressed the most.



Punjab Police goalkeeper Deepak moves out and clears the ball as ASC's Vince Lakra moves in for a possible chance in the final Below: Western Railway defenders hold off Punjab Police's Grewal. Pics: BHAGWAN SINGH



Splendid win by Allan Singh

AT 4-30 on Sunday afternoon, Ratan Bali's brave putt for a birdie 4 on the 16th green at the Bombay Presidency Golf Club just slid away beneath the hole and Allan Singh successfully completed the defence of his title of Amateur Golf Champion of India.

Seven holes earlier the final had started with an early birdie burst from Allan securing for him a lead of two up which by the end of the morning round he had increased to three. Both youngsters had played well. The approximate medal scores being 71 for Allan and 74 for Ratan.

The afternoon saw the first hole being halved in par fives followed by Allan making a mess of the second from tee to green eventually conceding the hole. Two up now or two down depending on how your sympathies lay. A tricky five footer dived into the cup at the third for Ratan while Allan missed from just inside that distance and the difference was down to one hole.

Halves followed at four and five and at the sixth Ratan unleashed a magnificent tee shot which flew straight for the fiendishly positioned pin, missed the hole by a fraction of an inch and came to a

stop six feet past. Under pressure now Allan hit his shot a little fat and saw his ball stop 15 yards short of the green and a good 40 yards from the hole.

An exquisitely played chip up

the length of this tricky green allowed Allan to protect his one hole lead as Ratan wasted his superb effort off the tee by missing his putt. A bad second to the seventh however, cost Allan that hole and with 25 holes played it was all square and everything to play for once again. The eighth, however, marked the turning point of the match.

Both players missed the green off the tee, Ratan being short of the right hand trap and Allan pulling into the left hand trap. Allan to play first, the match evenly poised and both players aware of the importance of the shots they were about to play.

A brilliantly executed explosion; the ball rose gently from the trap floating on a cushion of sand and spun itself to a halt three feet past the cup, the shot of a true champion. A shaken Ratan missed his little chip and the players departed for the ninth tee with Allan one up again. A pushed second cost Ratan the ninth and it was now two up for Allan and only nine to play. The tenth and eleventh were halved with somewhat shaky golf as nerves and fatigue began to take their toll. A beautiful pitch followed by a fine putt at the 12th saved Ratan from falling further behind after he had been in all manner of trouble off the tee.

More loose shots from Ratan at the 13th and another beautiful bunker shot by Allan at the 14th.



Allan Singh receives the cup from chief guest
Brig. Chopra. Below: Allan in action.



put the defending champion in the near impregnable position of four up and four to play and though Ratan won back the 15th by holing a gutsy ten footer, a half in pars at the next gave Allan the match, 3 & 2

It had been a splendid performance by Allan and a very very fine effort by Ratan Bali playing in what is likely to be his first of many finals in this tournament

The earlier rounds of the championship provided much fine golf and a high level of excitement. Interest on the first day centred on the match between local golfer Bunty Sood and the incredibly long hitting Sher Gill of the Services. Gill finally squeezed through on the 20th when Bunty missed a shortish putt.

The second round saw the champion Allan Singh being fully extended by his host, Chembur golfer Kishu Raman. Here too, the match was all square after eighteen and Allan had to go all the way to the 20th before a series of errors by Kishu gave Allan the match.

The third round match between Andy Sharma and C V Pratap produced possibly the best golf of the entire championship. Two birdies and a par in the first three holes put Pratap three up. Nothing daunted Andy flung back two birdies and a par of his own to even the match after six. The players exchanged the seven and eight and halved nine and ten before Andy stuck his nose in front for the first time by winning the 11th.

Pratap promptly went birdie par to take the lead again but it proved to be shortlived as Andy produced an impeccable birdie three at the long, difficult 14th to square the match again. Fifteen was halved in fours but there was nothing that Andy could do about Pratap's eagle three at 16.

Andy's three at the 17th was good enough to square the match again but Pratap's brilliant second shot to the 18th which came to rest five feet from the hole saw him the victor as Andy flurried with the left hand rough all the way to the green.

Pratap however succumbed to three-time winner Vikramjit Singh in the fourth round but not before making Viki work for his victory. One up on the last tee Pratap made a hash of his second shot from the right hand trap and allowed Viki to square the match. He then followed a magnificent second to the 19th by sadly three putting and made his exit from the championship.

The Indian golf scene will be seeing much of C V Pratap in the future for he is a very sound player indeed. Another creditable performance was that of a youngster from Madras; Dilip Thomas Dilip, playing in his first cham-



The East Zone team, winners of the inter-zonal title. Manjit, Khaitan, Lakshman and Allan Singh. Below: Lakshman 'Bunny' Singh, who won the Wills and Western India titles, receiving the trophy



pionship reached the last sixteen before surrendering to veteran Simran Singh.

The quarter-final line up was Allan Singh vs Gangesh Khaitan, Bunny Singh vs Manjit Singh, Viki Singh vs Ratan Bali and Simran Singh vs P C Bhandari. Of these, the closest match was between Allan and Gangesh. Four down after five holes, Gangesh rallied well but he had left himself with a little bit too much to do and Allan emerged the winner on the 18th green.

Prakash Bhandari produced extremely sound golf to eliminate Simran at the 17th while Bunny beat Manjit 2 & 1 and Ratan beat Viki 3 & 1. An errant putter let Prakash Bhandari down in his semi-final match against Ratan Bali who won 5 & 4 a score which belies the closeness of the match.

Nonetheless it had been a fine achievement by Prakash to enter the last four and he can look back on this year's championship with contentment.

The other semi-final between Bunny Singh and Allan Singh was closely contested. Bunny who had played so well in annexing the Wills and Western India titles a few days earlier could not maintain his form and a fine birdie by Allan at the 13th followed by a loose tee shot by Bunny at the 14th gave Allan a two hole lead which he clung to tenaciously while he waited for the holes to run out on Bunny. This duly happened at the 17th and Allan was in his second successive final and on his way to his second successive title.

—P. J. INGINFER.

OF LATE, there has been a lot of talk about appointing neutral umpires for cricket matches. However, I did not know how keen the Indian Cricket Board was about it till I asked me to look out for some good umpires during my visit to the Soviet Union.

So, the day after I arrived in Moscow, I looked up my friend, Dimitri, and asked him if he would like to be a cricket umpire in India.

"Long live Indo-Soviet friendship," he said, raising a glass of vodka. "Is it an offer you are making under the Indo-Soviet cultural exchange programme?"

"No, Dimitri," I said, "it is for a game of cricket we play in India and sometimes the people are not happy and grab their caps from umpires. So, our board thought we should have Russian umpires."

"Now I understand," said Dimitri. "It is under the Indo-Soviet sports exchange programme and great Indian players play great Russian players in friendly spirit."

"No, Dimitri," I said. "It is exchange between Indian players and New Zealand players and you keep caps of New Zealand players."

BUZZING AROUND

by BUSYBEE

"I keep caps as souvenirs for visit to New Zealand?" asked Dimitri. "You don't go to New Zealand, you come to India," I said. "And you don't keep caps as souvenirs. You keep caps of New Zealand players when they are bowling and, after they have finished bowling, you give them back their caps. And you don't allow them to snatch their caps from you."

"I do not understand why New Zealand players not leave caps in dressing room if they do not wish to wear them while playing. And why they not trust Indian umpires to keep their caps," said Dimitri.

"It is not just a matter of trusting Indian umpires with caps," I said. "And New Zealand players have to wear caps because in India the sun is very hot and they are always complaining about

the weather. And when there is no sun, there is rain."

"I still find difficult to understand," said Dimitri. "If the sun is not, why New Zealand players take out their caps and give them to this umpire. Why does not the umpire buy his own cap and wear it?"

I explained: "The umpire wears his own cap. This cap he puts in his pocket or puts it on the top of his own cap as you may have seen in joke books."

"There are no joke books in Soviet Union," said Dimitri. "And I do not see reason in umpire taking New Zealand players' caps and putting them all in his pocket."

"He does not take all of them together," I explained. "He takes only one at a time and he also takes caps of Indian players. And it is not the taking of caps that is the main thing. It is that some players throw their caps at the umpire when they are angry."

"Are they angry because the umpire keeps taking their caps?" asked Dimitri.

"Not exactly," I said. "They are angry because the umpires are Indians."

And Dimitri said, "Why not you play football instead? Nobody wears caps when playing football and you will have no more trouble."

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More, not equal prizes

THE girls will again be at Wimbledon next summer, although they have lost the battle for an equal share of the prize money.

The boycott they threatened last July, which would have reduced the All-England Club's centenary tournament to a half-value event has been called off.

Now the women will play for an average of 80 per cent of the men's cash — the same as last year.

Some women players could even be comparatively worse off. In announcing the figures for Wimbledon 1977, the club has admitted the new prize structure "rewards merit where it is due, at the top."

For the girl who emerges as singles champion, it means a boost in prize money from £10,000 to £13,500.

But for the 48 girls who lose in the first round there is no increase on last year's £150.

Sir Brian Burnett, the All-England Club chairman, said "We have always wanted a sensible solution to this problem and the Women's Association seem happy with the increases we have arranged."

Total prize money for what promises to be the best-ever championship, from June 20 to July 2, is up by £59,494 to a massive £218,385.

There will be £116,850 in the men's singles, with the champion taking £15,000 — an increase of £2,500 over 1976, when the total for the event was £68,300.

The women's singles pool will total £60,180 compared with £45,200 last year.



The Durand fix-up

THE way the two Punjab teams, JCT Mills and Leader Club stole their berths for the Durand Cup semi-finals this year is deplorable. Both teams should know that we sport-lovers pay quite a fortune to witness an honest game and not a farce whose outcome has already been preplanned.

—Baldev Singh (Delhi)

SO now we have fixed matches in the Durand — a tournament which has the patronage of the big people in Delhi.

I would have believed Leader beat JCT 4-2 on merit if I had not listened into the commentary. Placings being decided only on basis of the number of goals scored is amazing. Goals, when two teams really need them, can be easily 'scored' thanks to arrangements off the field.

I suppose if Mohun Bagan had beaten Dempo 4-0 instead of 1-0, Leader and JCT would run up a tennis-like score of 7-5 to enter the semi-final — sidetracking the team conceding the least number of goals and with the best goal average.

—S. Sinha (Calcutta 9)

What criteria?

WHAT is the criteria the selection committee applies? It is very surprising that when a batsman is dropped a bowler replaces him.

Further, why there are two wicketkeepers included in a team playing at home?

Now the time has come to select the committee members, to meet our justice to the players.

—U. B. Rautkar and others (Bombay-34).

LET me congratulate you for your bold editorial (SW Nov 28) regarding senseless selections, umpiring controversies etc. I fervently hope that the Cricket Control Board will avoid recurrence of such mistakes in future.

—N. Hemaraj (Calicut)

Two questions

TWO questions pertaining to Indian sport have been haunting my mind for the last several months. One is: How is it that unlike in England, Australia and the West Indies, the selection committee for Test cricket in India continues from year to year to comprise mostly of cricketers of moderate achievements when the services of Test cricketers of international repute and stature, such as Lala Amarnath, Vinoo Mankad, Umrigar, Pataudi, Contractor, Sardesai, Bapu Nadkarni etc are available?

What considerations other than merit are responsible for this sorry state of affairs to the detriment of Indian cricket? Cannot the Central Government intervene in this matter as in Pakistan?

Again, how is it that India made a complete mess of its trip to the Montreal Olympics in more than one respect when the Central Government representatives were right on the spot in one capacity or another?

—Sanjay M. Nadkarni (Bombay 37)

A shift

GONE are the days when the British press was charitably disposed towards Indian cricket and took an "unfathomably big brotherly attitude" towards it. They always hoped India would do well whenever in the past she took up the 'might' of England and when at times India did manage to do well it was warmly accoladed all the way. Things have changed now and they are going to feel bitterly disappointed — a more natural reaction — if India do well.

It's apparent from the recent write-ups in Sportsweek that they

are now more interested in bolstering the morale of England rather than India's as was their practice in the not very distant past. For once they are taking the India-England series as seriously as they would take an Australia-England series and giving it the importance it deserves. For them now this series is going to be a war even if it's going to be a 'non-violent' one.

As for Tony Greig, he seems to have shed some of his usual pre-series cockiness and over aggressiveness and has only expressed cautious optimism.

—Sudhir Bhargava (Bombay)

Ranji points

THE Ranji Trophy league played in the various zones needs a correction in its system of awarding points.

As of now if no result on the first innings is arrived at after three days, each side is awarded two points. On the other hand if the first innings result is completed the losing side gets three points. This is quite bewildering as well as unfair.

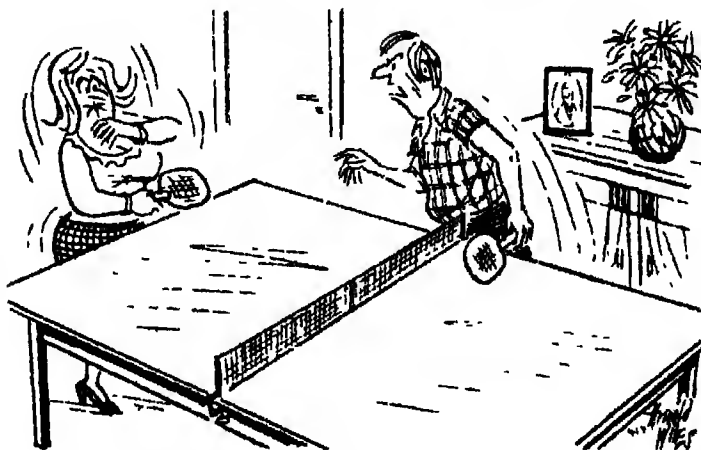
I say so because, in a tight situation where more than two teams are competing for the final two places, one of the teams would be tempted to give in and concede the first innings lead, rather than fight it out to ensure that no first innings result is arrived at.

Hence, a better method of awarding points in such a situation would be to award each side four points if the first innings result is not forthcoming.

Although cricket is to be played in the right spirit, this rule may compel a side to manoeuvre more points in the interest of their side entering the knock out stage.

—M. J. Taraporevala (Bombay)

IT IS THE GAME!



"That's our last ball! Serves you right for nattering during the game."



by RAILBIRD

THE average racegoer hasn't an inkling of the hectic behind-the-scenes activity, the high-pressure lobbying that precedes the selection of the Committee of the RWITC. And what is true of that club is true of all race clubs in the country.

This year's campaigners are more active than usual as a sustained effort is being made to prevent the re-election of a particular senior member. Several foreign authorities are being quoted, and it goes without saying, misquoted, by the pro and anti factions and much heat is being generated but little light is being thrown on the issues involved.

Why is there so much interest in the election? The nine who will be elected are the men who will control the sport in Western India for the five Stewards, who will finally supervise the actual conduct of racing, will be selected from amongst them.

It is common practice for a Steward not to sit in judgment in cases where horses in which he has an interest are involved in objections. It is now being argued that a Steward should not also sit when a rider or a trainer who is in his employ is being examined even though he may have no interest in the horse, the handling of which is the subject of an enquiry.

The anti-factions claim that this comes under the head of natural justice and is observed by certain important foreign authorities. The pro-faction points out that as we have modelled our racing on the pattern of the Jockey Club of England we should be guided by them and they go on to add that in England a Steward does not sit on enquiries in which he has a pecuniary interest. The emphasis is on the word pecuniary and if this is strictly followed there will be the odd case when none of the Stewards will qualify to sit and all of the Club members, on whom the Stewards can call upon if they do not have a quorum, will be similarly disqualified.

A good example of this situation is the H. M. Mehta Gold Cup which was run on last November 14. Grand Salaam won from Chashm E-Shahi but the result was referred to the Stewards when E. Alford who was on the runner up, lodged an objection against the winner.

More heat than light

Now, the premium to the breeder of the winner was Rs 1,540 50 and as Grand Salaam was bred by the RWITC the club had a pecuniary interest in the outcome of the objection. Thus, if the convention of the Jockey Club were to be followed none of the Stewards and none of the members who were eligible to act as Stewards could qualify to decide the issue! Phew! What a situation!

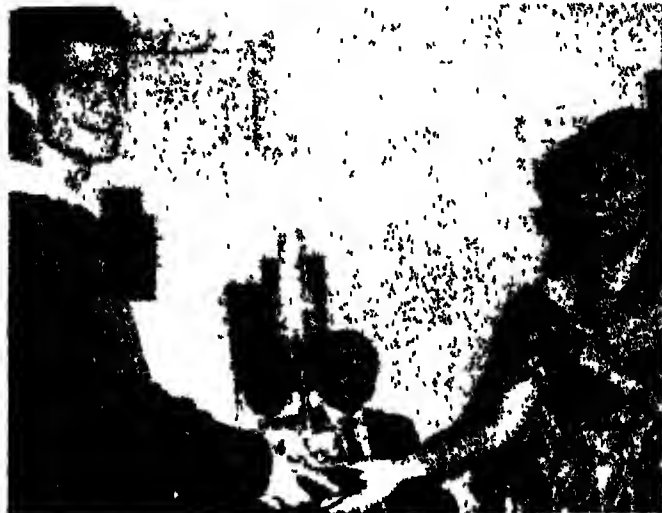
Champions of a Jockey Club of India, consisting of representatives from the four Turf Authorities of India, can use this as yet another platform on which to advance their pet theories. And they probably will as they seem to be unmindful of conditions in other countries. For instance, Thailand, who is ridiculously small as compared to this country, has two Turf Authorities and Australia, who is smaller than India but has far more racing, has five!

Hot air produces nothing but avoidable unpleasantness. Come Thursday, December 23 and this will be brought home forcibly, for this column is prepared to offer odds that the official against whom the present campaign has been mounted will be duly elected.

Mahalaxmi railbirds will see

Squanderer, the Valoroso-Milky Way colt who won from all his three starts last season and went on to claim the Bangalore Derby after failing as the favourite in the Colts Trial there, in action next Sunday when champion trainer R. R. Byramji will saddle him for the 2,000 Guineas. He is two whole classes above his rivals and as he will meet them at level weight, it is difficult to envisage his defeat although he will be making a first appearance after a lay off of five months. His principal rivals will be the vastly improved Jamshid (Lord Jim-Campari), Wild Blossom (Valoroso Orange Blossom) and War Cry (Red Indian Nicola).

Of course, the legendary Commanche was beaten last year and, during the current winter campaigns Wide Awake (Young Lochinvar-Mill Honey) surprised Aristocracy, who was trying to add to her Bangalore and South India 1,000 Guineas successes. In the Bangalore 2,000, Noble Fairy (Mighty Sparrow-Felden Fairy) decisively beat Salome in the Calcutta 1,000 and Punter's Delight (Red Royal Blue Blazer) did not live up to his name when surprising all in the Calcutta 2,000.



CCI OPEN SQUASH

Nikilesh Senapati beat S. N. Colah in the final of the CCI Open Squash Championships in Bombay recently. He is seen receiving his award from Mrs. M. K. Sanghi (top). Left: A. Nayak won the boys' final beating V. Ketrapal.



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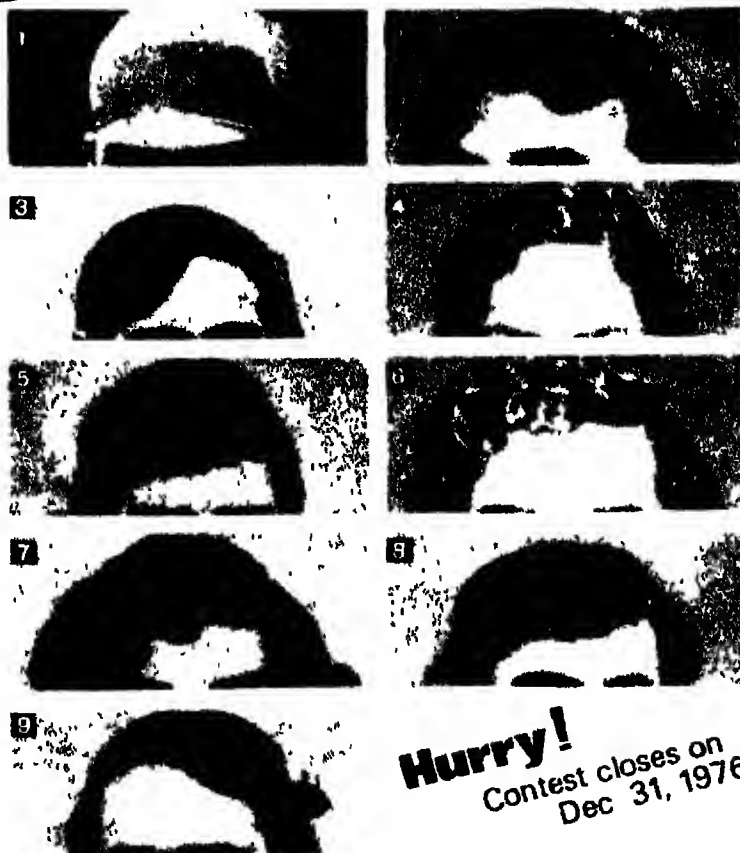
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KHALID ANSARI:

India outclassed

WHETHER or not Tony Greig, who had given England a 50-50 chance of winning, was dreaming of a white Christmas during the Ferozeshah Kotla Test has not yet been ascertained. But you may bet a rupee to a paratha that he was dreaming -- and doing everything possible to achieve his first Test win since he became England captain in 1975.

And how gloriously has that dream come true. A thoroughly well deserved win by a resounding margin, in less than four days of playing time.

England's determination -- and superiority -- was established from the very first ball of the match which Amiss, who has now adopted a two-eyed stance, a pronounced backlift and with a propensity to shuffle towards the off, imperviously thumped to the long off boundary.

During the first session, following the break in Bedi's luck with the test, the Test was undeniably England's all the way. Hopes of an Indian victory were raised by the early breakthrough on a wicket which afforded slow turn from the first day but which played progressively -- or retrogressively -- slower and less responsive to spin.

The most admirable elements of English cricket professionalism came into sharp focus during the match: the capacity to adjust, adapt, improvise. With the team, the top half of the batting line-up (which, it now transpires, extends down to No. 9) dismissed for a mere 125, Amiss and Knott, both of who returned home after the last visit to our shores with rather unhappy memories, ably assisted by 'Man of the Match' John Lever, whose county cricket batting average is a mere 12.00 and who had had been included in the squad as an extra seamer, set about the task of stemming the rot. Amiss suffering from chest congestion, seldom looked brilliant but he performed the job expected of him admirably. All misgivings about his ability to face India's famed spin trio after his changed stance were set at rest. Knott was at his impish best -- cheeky, effervescent but responsible. And no cricketer could have hoped for a better start to a Test career with bat and ball than John Lever.

Of our bowlers, only Bedi extracted some purchase out of the wicket. He kept the batsmen on a tight rein with his clever variations of line, length and flight.

As reported elsewhere in this issue, the Indian fielding seems to have lapsed back to its wayward ways. Dropped catches cost us dear.

Much has been said about the 'rogue' ball which replaced the original one which went out of shape (Indian made 'Pioneer Deluxe' balls are being used in the series) after 12 overs. Whereas the original ball made Lever look fairly ordinary, the one which was substituted suddenly started seaming and swerving to the great discomfort of the Indian batsmen who barring '1000 in a calendar year' boy 'Sunny' Gavaskar preferred to play across the line of the sharply angled deliveries swinging, with some

assistance from the dense atmosphere, on to the leg stump.

Tony Greig appears to be a man of his word. At the start of the tour he had promised that his team would respect the umpires' decisions and they did just that, despite the fact that at least two leg before decisions -- those of Greig himself and Woolmer -- were rather debatable but the standard of umpiring was, on the whole, of a high order with the decisions which went against England being more or less balanced by those that accounted for the dismissals of Gaekwad and Viswanath in the first innings. And the negatived appeal for leg before against Gavaskar in the first innings must have been a very near thing.

In sum, India's downfall was largely the result of atrocious batting, lack of adequate penetrative support to Bedi and sub-standard fielding. In suffering their third consecutive defeat at the Ferozeshah Kotla, the Indian batsmen betrayed an astonishing lack of application on a placid wicket with many of them throwing away their wickets to irresponsible shots.

Despite the predictions of the experts, the wicket did not take appreciable turn, although it must be said to the credit of Underwood and Greig (who bowled his off spinners in the second innings) that they bowled intelligently and accurately.

Greig maintained the pressure throughout by setting attacking fields which his first innings total permitted him to do. To add to India's woes, the England fielding was absolutely first rate. The two catches taken by Willis and the return catch accepted by Underwood to dismiss Patel were superb by any yardstick.

A refreshing feature of this series -- thus far -- is the tremendously good spirit that has existed between the teams. Tantrums, displays of temper and intimidation of umpires have been conspicuous by their absence and a healthy precedent has been set of players of the batting side visiting the dressing room of the fielding team after the day's play to share a glass of beer or what have you.

Our selectors are to be complimented for not panicking after the setback in Delhi. The choice of individual players are always open to debate but they have done well in retaining all but one of the team which played in Delhi for India's 50th Test against England starting at Eder Gardens on New Year's Day. Only by giving players a fair trial can confidence be inculcated.

Finally, a suggestion to the Cric-Control Board. Can rapport not be established between the selection committee which, after all's said and done, does indeed perform a most difficult and thankless job and is not in a position to answer the charges levelled against it via the Board secretary? This is not to suggest that confidential proceedings of selection committee meetings be made public knowledge. But surely certain broad details regarding the inclusion or exclusion of a player or players can be made available to the press, as in the case in England as our friend Ken Barrington would have us know.

The Board should, in its own interest as well as that of cricket followers, reconsider its tight-lipped policy. In certain matters of public interest, absolute secrecy can only breed suspicion, misunderstanding and rumour-mongering.

SPORTSWEEK wishes its readers
a merry X'mas

For Tony Greig...

A win, at last

TONY GREIG'S long-awaited first victory as England's captain was achieved in Delhi's winter sun shine. After the bleak struggles against the pace of Australia and the West Indies the emphatic margin of an innings and 25 runs must have given him almost as much satisfaction as victory itself.

India succumbed to the outstanding fast left arm bowling of John Lever whose 10 for 70 was only one wicket fewer than Alec Bedser's feat also in his first Test, at Lord's against India in 1946.

The bowling of Lever and the left-arm spinning of Derek Underwood in the second innings, after crucial innings by Dennis Amis and Alan Knott, left India desolate and with problems to face.

England had the luck - with the toss, a swinging ball which caused a first innings rout, and the acceptance of all important chances (if that be luck) - but the success was founded on hard work, a team spirit second to none and a model management. Both itinerary and illness set back the build up to the first Test, and I shall be honestly surprised if England do not maintain the high standards set at Delhi.

India's batting seemed a little. The exception was Sunil Gavaskar

who completed his 1,000 Test runs for the year and confirmed his status among the leading batsmen of the world. His judgment, particularly against the pace bowling, was exceptional.

But the foundation for England's win was set by Amis.

Apart from his considerable ability Amis has the extra qualities of quiet determination and the mental stamina to continue once the landmark of a century is reached. He is a big innings batsman.

by ALEX EANNISTER

of The Daily Mail

Of his 11 Test centuries no fewer than eight have exceeded 150, including two doubles, and another score was 138 not out against New Zealand.

Dennis Lillee and Jeff Thomson temporarily unnerved him, but he returned at the Oval last August to make 203 against the West Indies attack, including Mike Holding who had literally drawn blood in the earlier MCC match. Amis worked out a new technique, and not only that but his character was put to further stern

examination on the first two days of the Delhi Test.

He started feeling unwell, saw four wickets disappear for 65, and finished with a temperature of 101 when he was eighth out at 357. Those bald facts outline a magnificent performance for England, who had begun to wonder if it wasn't going to be another case of torment and defeat against Chandrasekhar and Bishan Bedi. The trouble started, of course, with Mike Brearley's self destruction, continued with Graham Barlow joining the goodly company who have started a Test career with a duck, and the lesson that Chandra's top spinner - often delivered from the edge of the crease and virtually becomes a googly - can only be countered by the forward offensive stroke. And then only if the batsman is in the highest class.

Tony Greig played a part in the recovery, but Knott, with his consistent blend of class, improvisation and genuine skill positively scintillated. Knott contributed of his stand with Amis of 101 in 107 minutes, while Lever, whose first class average for Essex is around 12, read Chandra as if his secrets were an open book. It was Amis (1 six and 22 fours) who went first in the partnership of 54, and with Lever completely at home it wasn't all that surprising.

To recover from 125 for five to 381 was a feat none would have predicted at lunch on the first day. Any more than anyone would have guessed India's first innings total of 122, with Lever taking 7 for 46, and only one short of the performances of the Australians, Albert Trott (Adelaide, 1894-95), Bob Massie (Lord's, 1972) and the West Indian Alf Valentine (Old Trafford, 1950), who took eight wickets in an innings on their Test debut.

Alec Bedser had 7 for 49 in his first Test at Lord's against India in 1946, and, despite the galaxy of bowling talent England have had since the war, Lever's performance statistically is best in a maiden international.

He had nothing but his ability and endurance to aid him. The conditions were normal for India. But he had one stroke of luck when the ball went out of shape. The replacement - all are of Indian manufacture - started to swing and in the course of 16 balls

contd on p 9



John Lever, SPORTSWEEK's Man of the Match for the first Test, receiving the award of Rs. 1500 from SW Managing Editor Khalid Ansari after the conclusion of the Test. To Mr Ansari's right is Cricket Board secretary Ghulam Ahmed

The worst in 10 years

IT is ten years since India lost a home Test as heavily as the first Test at Ferozshah Kotla. That previous loss was to the mighty West Indies side of the mid 1960's, just before it started to go over the hill. The recent one is to a side that is still picking up the pieces of the disastrous series of the summer against the West Indies, but is picking them up pretty quickly.

After a morning and half an afternoon of triumph on the first day, when they had Mike Brearley, Graham Barlow, Bob Woolmer and Keith Fletcher out for 64 and then Greig, at 125, India were steadily outplayed, bettered by far in every department.

On that first morning, Bedi and Chandrasekhar made England relive their nightmares of four years ago and in this period, Amiss too had to battle for survival. Ghavri tested him with bumpers several times. He hooked one of them for six but in coping with many others he showed enough discomfort to suggest that Ghavri, bowl

by DICKY RUTNAGUR

ing as well as he has done in two seasons might have brought Amiss to hook on a livelier pitch.

Amiss is not a hooker. But with little pace and bounce in the pitch, he ventured to play the hook time and again. He nearly came to grief during Ghavri's opening spell when he offered a difficult chance to Chandrasekhar, just behind square.

There was even a nearer miss for Amiss after tea, when he was on the approaches to his hundred. Driving at Bedi without being quite to the pitch, he played the ball up-pishly into the covers. A late start by Patel, probably because he lost sight of the ball against the background of dark brown clothing and scarlet, advertisement bearing eye shades in the eastern stand, caused him to miss it.

The impact was disastrous. Amiss, although feeling quite ill with a heavy chest cold, plagued India till midway through the next afternoon. He had two more chances in the leg-trap on the second day. None of the four he gave during his long innings — a performance of character and dedication, if not brilliance — was easy. But then Test cricket is not meant to be an easy game.

Amiss shared effective partnerships with Greig, Knott and, most important, with Lever who, ironically, bats lower down for his county, Essex, than he did that day

for England. Knott, making 75, batted in a manner which showed that he will continue to pose problems through the series.

Lever's innings was so untroubled that it underlined to the umpire the handicap in not possessing a fast bowler. Under the circumstances, the risk of tailenders making a stand against India is ever-present. Moreover,

they not aimed across the line? Amarnath's was a particularly bad shot, specially because he played it off the very first ball he received.

The rest of the batting could not rise above this debacle, which left India reeling at 51 for 4 at the end of the second day. It was obvious then that even if India saved the follow-on, they would have a long,



India's No 11 Chandrasekhar is the only one without a smile on his face. The English players Willis (left), Greig, Brearley, Barlow and Underwood are positively jubilant.

Chandrasekhar lost the sting and control of his first spell and Venkat never really bowled as well as he can.

Last out in England's innings, Lever was not finished with India yet. Before the second day was through, he turned the match in England's favour with a magnificent exhibition of swing bowling.

Luck was on England's side. Just as Greig brought on Lever, the ball with which the innings started went out of shape. The replacement, if not a "rogue", was most amenable to swing and with the misty atmosphere of the evening helping further, Lever ran rampant.

In 16 deliveries, Lever removed Aushuman Gaekwad who had timed the ball splendidly in making 20, Amarnath (with the very next ball), Viswanath and Venkatraghavan, sent in as night watchman. The first three victims were all lbw.

True, it was swing bowling at its best. But would Gaekwad and Amarnath not have survived had

hard struggle on their hands in the second innings.

Under the circumstances, it was a bit rash on the part of Gavaskar to keep hooking, specially when the shot brought him no runs. He could not time them — sufficient warning that he was heading for trouble. Not unpredictably, he lofted a hook to long leg where Willis, sprinting the best part of 25 yards, took the first of two superb catches he brought off that morning.

It was forecast by local experts that the pitch would break up. It never really did. But it was un-comfortably slow and allowed the odd ball to turn.

It was not a typical Underwood wicket. But he bowled superbly on it, keeping an immaculate line and making the batsman play at almost every ball. With an enormous fund of runs to bowl at, England were able to crowd the batsmen and the pressure became intolerable.

Greig was the ideal foil for Underwood. Bowling in any style,

contd on p 9

A ghost that haunts

by PAT GIBSON
of The Daily Express

A GHOST of Christmas past was haunting Tony Greig at Delhi as he savoured the taste of his first victory in nine Tests as England captain.

John Lever demolished India's three remaining wickets in 13 deliveries on the last day to give himself the astonishing match figures of ten for 70 on his Test debut and see England home.

Yet as his players stripped off to luxuriate in the warm December sunshine by the hotel pool Greig's thoughts were already racing ahead to the second and third Tests in Calcutta and Madras -- and just as swiftly darting back to what happened there four years ago.

Then as now England spent Christmas celebrating a triumphant start in the Delhi Test. But within three weeks they had been beaten by 28 runs in Calcutta, by four wickets in Madras and the series was lost.

"We don't want a repetition of that," says Greig. "So we've got to

ing public image that his players will not let the festive spirit run away with them either.

What really swung it for Greig though were two superb bowling performances -- by Lever, whose ten wicket haul was the best by an English bowler on his debut since Alec Bedser's against India at Lord's in 1946, and by Underwood who quickly dispelled any ideas that all the world's great slow bowlers come from the east.

"Underwood is the one thing about Madras I'm looking forward to. If the wicket goes as everyone expects it to he could be even more dangerous than the Indian spinners. He's that bit quicker and in those conditions he needs to move the ball only marginally to be really difficult to play."

Greig too did his bit here with 40 overs of off spin though he realises that the balance of the side could cause problems on the turning pitches later on.

He admitted "When I'm bowling

Alan Knott and then John Lever to lift them to their formidable total.

If Knott's was the virtuoso performance that broke the Indian spinners' grip and Lever's a bonus that capsuled the spirit in the side, Amiss was a hero. When he finally fell for 179 his temperature too was into three figures and he has been in bed ever since.

John Lever's incredible seven for 46 confirms the belief that the Indian batsmen are more vulnerable to seam and swing than England's are to spin. "I think our seamers are going to cause these guys problems wherever we play," says Greig. "There will be times when we must think seriously about playing an extra spinner but it could be similar to the last tour when our seamers finished top of the averages."

The quickest of them, Bob Willis, has a problem in that he has been warned once in each innings for following through on the line of the stumps. "It is a marginal thing a question of about two inches -- but the umpires are quite right," said Greig. "He is on line."

For Lever though his first Test could not have gone better if it had been played at Ilford. "You get it to swing like that two or three times a season at home," he told me. "But to get it happen on your Test debut is unbelievable."

The Indian spinners? "I said before we came I didn't think they could bowl any better than they did last time. And certainly Chandu dropped a few short ones -- one sometimes two an over -- which he didn't do four years ago. Dennis really got stuck into him at one stage."

"But he's still a great bowler and I wouldn't say too much about him after just one innings."

Gavaskar was England's big stumbling block. He had batted for three and a quarter hours in the first innings and he far exceeded that in the second. He takes a risk every now and again but he is getting away with them.

India's 122 all out was their lowest against England on their own wickets since they were bowled out for 121 at Kanpur 25 years ago and they looked sadly demoralised. Yet Greig still deliberated at some length before deciding to enforce the follow on, the deciding factor probably being that with a rest day to follow his bowlers should be fit and fresh for another burst on Tuesday morning. And that they did.



It's action all the way... a ball pops off Patel's pads, Knott dives, Greig sprawls. Woolmer grabs as the batsman looks on.

start straightaway on getting the guys in the right frame of mind for Calcutta.

"We will go into it with exactly the same attitude as we had here -- trying like stink to win. But if we do get into trouble we have got to make absolutely certain we hang on to our 1-0 lead in the series."

"We just cannot afford to go to Madras level. It's horses for courses and India have won a lot of Test matches there recently."

It is an indication of Greig's growing maturity that he has not let the intoxication of such a magnificent start go to his head. And it is a tribute to the hard professionalism that lurks behind the sim-

well I can bowl 'em but it comes and goes with me. It wasn't until the closing stages that I felt the loop was there and I started getting a few outside edges. But it still wasn't quite right."

India's captain Bedi said apologetically "It wasn't much of a contest. I'm afraid Lever bowled very well but without taking anything away from him I must say we helped by playing some stupid shots. You would have thought it was Old Trafford from his figures."

On the first day England shrivelled to 65 for four and later 125 for five before the indomitable Dennis Amiss joined forces with

INDIA v ENGLAND (First Test)

Played at Ferozeshah Kotla ground New Delhi, December 17, 18, 19, 21, 22 1976
Result England won by an innings and 25 runs
Toss won by England
Test debut John Lever and Graham Barlow for England
Umpires M V Nagendra and J Reuben

ENGLAND

H L Amiss c Sharma b Venkatraghavan	174
J M Brearley run out	5
G D Barlow c M Amarnath b Bedi	0
R A Woolmer lbw b Chandrasekhar	4
K W R Fletcher b Chandrasekhar	8
A W Greig lbw b Venkatraghavan	25
+ A P E Knott st Kirmani b Bedi	75
C M Old c Viswanath b Bedi	15
I K Lever c Bedi b Chandrasekhar	51
R G D Willis c Venkatraghavan b Bedi	1
D L Underwood not out	7
Extras	4
Total	381

FALL OF WICKETS

134 234, 351, 465, 5125 6226 7263, 8357
9364

BOWLING

Ghavri	14	3	50	0
M Amarnath	8	7	12	0
Bedi	59	12	92	4
Chandrasekhar	125	6	117	3
Venkatraghavan	14	6	94	2
Gaekwad	1	0	1	0
Sharma	1	0	6	0

INDIA

S M Gavaskar c Willis b Lever	18
A D Gaekwad lbw b Lever	20
M Amarnath lbw b Lever	0
G R Viswanath lbw b Lever	3
S Venkatraghavan b Lever	0
B P Patel c Knott b Lever	13
P Sharma c Willis b Underwood	4
+ S M H Kirmani b Lever	13
K Ghavri not out	1
+ B S Bedi c Greig b Old	0
B S Chandrasekhar b Old	0
Extras	4
Total	122

FALL OF WICKETS

143 243 319 349 546, 699, 7103, 120, 7110, 3133, 4153,
8121, 9122 5161, 6182, 7190, 8226, 9226

BOWLING

125	0	28	2	4	7	6	0
7	3	21	0	9	1	24	1
23	6	46	7	14	6	24	3
9	3	19	1	31	15	78	4
—	—	—	—	40	11	84	2

Alex Bannister

from p 6

he dismissed Gaekwad, Mohinder — for the third successive nought in 7 deliveries — Viswanath and Venkat at a cost of three runs

Lever's left arm over the wicket deliveries have a natural slant and he was primarily chosen as a bowler with an alternate line. He has now developed the ball to swing into the batsman, or which continues straight — proved by three leg before victims. The next morning he found the swing so much that he was able to aim at first slip.

"Has anyone made a better debut?" manager Ken Barrington asked me of Lever. "Lever made a polished 53 followed by 7 for 36. What a truly magnificent start." Barrington has cause to be interested in Lever's type of bowling because he has always maintained the two most difficult bowlers he faced were Australia's left armed Alan Davidson and Chandra Greig admitted that the 27-year-old Lever's bowling was a pleasant surprise, and Barrington believes that he will get more like Davidson during the series.

Not surprisingly, England became inspired with Willis making two superlative catches, first a sprint and a roll at long leg for the vital wicket of Sunil Gavaskar, and a remarkable reflex action swoop at silly point off the last ball before lunch. Parthasarthy Sharma nicked to Greig, and the ball was diverted downwards — which made it such a remarkable catch — off Greig's thigh.

For India it was understandably

a sad beginning, and, to their credit, they fought with greater will and skill when following on 259 behind with two and a half days to go. The switch of attack from fast to slow bowling was of almost classic pattern by the end with Derek Underwood adding to his Test success with a long and unchanged assault, abetted by Greig, who, considering he had not used his off breaks to any extent in the previous four matches of the tour, did well. Once Gavaskar was dismissed England must have felt they were on the way, and the versatility of their attack, efficiently supported in the field, was a pointer to India's problems for the remainder of the series.

I feel obliged to say that I was surprised by the long delay on the fourth morning due to the mist which enveloped the ground. By English standards it was clear enough for play after 30 minutes. The laws stipulate a stoppage is permissible only if conditions are unreasonable or dangerous and any suggestion that it could be unfair or dangerous to batsmen or fielders was soon banished by appearance of the sun. Having said that, Messrs Reuben and Nagendra achieved the near impossible status of umpires having no other decisions seriously contested. England were well satisfied with the standard of umpiring.

Fittingly, Lever rounded off his triumph with the outstanding three wickets with the new ball — admirably held back by Greig — in 34 overs and in 41 balls England had confirmed their victory.

Rutnagar

from p 7

either seam up or off-spin, Greig normally tends to stray in line and length. But on that day, he was on target straight away and kept his control all afternoon.

This time Gavaskar played a sound, responsible innings, keeping his head down for as long as four hours and 21 minutes before Underwood induced a catch with his arm ball. It came through quickly and found the inside half of his bat, the capture of his prized wicket being completed by another magnificent catch — this time by Bob Woolmer.

If the major rescue operation was to be successfully accomplished, India needed long and productive innings from both Gavaskar and Viswanath. Viswanath, however, could not bring any weight to bear on the situation and, sadly, he got out to a rash stroke, a square-cut at Greig which he executed without being properly balanced or positioned.

Ghavri's 35 not out emphasised the need for a left-hander higher in the order to cope with Underwood. The point was not lost on the selectors. Before the day was out, they included Enknath Solkar in the squad for the second Test at Calcutta.

Calcutta commentators

THE panel of commentators for the second Test at Calcutta, starting on January 1, 1977 is:

English: Dicky Rutnagar, Suresh Saralva and Ashish Ray. Expert will be decided later.

Hindi: Jaadev Singh, Sushil Doshi and M. M. Manjul. Expert: Chandu Sarvate.

Berry Sarbadhikary—RIP

by KHALID ANSARI

THE tragic passing away of Berry Sarbadhikary has deprived Indian sport and sports journalism and broadcasting of a veritable doyen, a pioneer, a trail blazer who brought dignity to his profession and honour to his country.

The widely-travelled 'Berryda', as all of us at SPORTSWEEK affectionately and respectfully knew him, was a true ambassador of the country. His gentle, affable nature (which had an infinite capacity for 'empathy'), his polished demeanour which reflected his genteel upbringing and his sympathetic disposition endeared him to all those who had the pleasure of knowing him at home and abroad.

The list of 'firsts' chalked up by Berryda over a long and successful career spanning 72 years during which he covered 104 Tests is most impressive indeed. His book 'Indian Cricket Uncovered' remains a classic and 'My World of Cricket' went out of print almost as soon as it was released.

A household name in India, Berryda was loved, respected, revered in the West Indies. The late Sir Frank Worrell and his wife Velda were dear friends of his.

Proof of the love and admiration which the West Indies had for Berryda was provided by Clive Lloyd's 1974-75 touring team which presented him a handsome purse at the conclusion of the Bush Trophy matches in Bombay, as did the Rotary Club of Bombay Mid-town and a host of friends after his retirement as cricket commentator.

Blessed with the ability to laugh at himself, Berryda believed in the adage that money should be 'current', not hoarded. Born in a distinguished Calcutta family and brought up in affluence, he counted among his intimate friends innumerable Maharajahs, Nawabs as also the hoi-polloi.

His earnings as author, journalist and broadcaster were considerable, but large-hearted friend and good host that he was, accustomed to the good things of life, Berryda did not have much to show for his efforts when he retired from All India Radio in 1972.

Even when his earnings diminished, Berryda was always nattily, if not expensively, attired. He fastidiously 'dressed for the occasion' and set great store by correct form and decorum. "How do I look maan?" he would often ask us in jest at parties, to which our stock reply would be 'sexy, maan', a re-

tort which unfailingly sent him into roars of laughter.

Berry Sarbadhikary was a true 'pro'. I had the pleasure and privilege of having him as house guest during Tony Lewis' team's tour and, therefore, had the opportunity of seeing for myself the tremendous stamina and capacity for hard work which he possessed.

Despite ill-health and an allergy which he developed due to exposure to the sun, he covered the entire series, often sitting in the sun (as one has to at some centres) with a towel on his head. To



His last column for SPORTSWEEK appears in this issue on page 13

continuously pound away on his typewriter for as long as eight hours at a stretch, sans food or drink, was for him, even at that age, an effortless job, provided coffee and cigarette were available in sufficient quantity.

Mild-mannered and soft-spoken, Berryda could be critical but never scathing. He could be trenchant but never abrasive. He did not dip his pen in arsenic. Above all, he was always constructive and responsible.

Berryda's neat exterior mirrored an orderly mind. He always dotted his 'i's and crossed his 't's'. He never missed a deadline and one could almost set one's watch by the arrival of his column in the office on Friday morning, the envelope neatly addressed in his elegant handwriting. Propriety was another trait which characterised his personality. He was always punctilious in the matter of correctly addressing people and personalities.

For some reason or another, Berryda would address me as 'my young bossman' and was often embarrassingly kind in his introductions and references. One reason for this could have been the fact that the SPORTSWEEK column meant a great deal to him. He looked upon it as a sort of resurrection of his writing career.

Around the time of his death, the Rotary Club of Bombay Mid-town, of which I have the honour to be a member, was considering appointing Berryda editor of its Bulletin, a part-time assignment which would have fetched him substantial income for fairly easy work for a man of his professional abilities. Berryda was himself in the process of completing the work of updating his 'India-West Indies' souvenir which could have been a money-spinner.

His desire, therefore, to take his life and his three-page letter to the police in which he attributes his decision to 'financial difficulties' is most bewildering. Besides, he had far too many friends, admirers and well-wishers who would have gladly helped, if called upon to do so. And, when considers the fact that Berryda reportedly had a bank balance of Rs. 7000 and a regular income, the fatal decision appears to be most bewildering, with more to it than meets the eye.

When Bishen Bedi most thoughtfully phoned early on the morning of the rest day to convey the news, my first reaction was that of disbelief. And one still finds it difficult to believe that the fun-loving Berry Sarbadhikary, with his *joie de vivre*, should decide to opt out for the reasons stated.

Berryda belonged to a fast vanishing species. He personified the very best aspects of old-world charm and grace. Somehow, the Maker does not cast His children in the same mould any longer. RIP.

Cricketers' gesture

THE Indian cricket team has contributed Rs. 1500 to the family of the late Mr. Berry Sarbadhikary.

India's captain B. S. Bedi, expressed his grief over the demise of Mr. Sarbadhikary. "My teammates join me in extending condolences to the bereaved family", he added during the Delhi Test.

The amount was handed over to Mr. Khalid Ansari, Managing Editor of SPORTSWEEK to be sent to Mr. Sarbadhikary's daughter.

THE ART OF CRICKET

The sweep shot

SIR JACK HOBBS and Bob Wyatt were two batsmen who frequently indulged in the sweep stroke against Clarrie Grimmett. It brought them many runs but now and again they misjudged the position of the front foot and were bowled round their legs.

Denis Compton played the sweep shot more frequently and to greater effect than anyone I can remember.

Against a leg-spinner the stroke should only be attempted providing the ball is pitched outside the leg stump.

Greater latitude may prevail against an off spinner providing he is consistently turning the ball and bowling over the wicket. In such circumstances the batsman may risk the shot even when the ball is pitching on the leg stump, because he knows that the angle of delivery plus the break would cause the ball to miss the leg stump if allowed to go through unimpeded.

Don't be quite so free when the off spinner is going round the wicket. The angle is quite different.

Played correctly the sweep shot can bring many runs. There is seldom more than one deep fieldsmen behind square leg, so that a single ought to be assured and the chance of a few quite good. Moreover, it is a wonderful antidote to those poisonous short legs.

Next time you see a batsman play the sweep and there are short-leg fieldsmen, watch how the one in danger recoils and ducks out of the way. It makes all the difference to these men's effectiveness.

It is unwise for a batsman to specifically make up his mind before a ball is bowled where he will hit it. That is, of course, unless there are exceptional circumstances, such as playing for the strike or when wickets are of no moment and only runs count, etc. Nevertheless, batsmen should always have prominently in their minds the thought that they will take advantage of openings in the field if opportunity occurs.

When taking strike a batsman should be able at any time to shut his eyes and visualise, just as though he was looking at a photograph, the exact position of every man on the field. Then and only then can he be mentally conditioned to the art of placing the ball.

Let me give two simple illustrations.

An inviting half-volley comes along just outside the leg stump. It can be easily forced just in

front of square-leg or, with just a little more control, swept round to fine-leg. There is a fieldsmen at square-leg and none behind. The greater scoring medium would be to sweep it fine. So when he sees that particular ball coming along, the striker instinctively knows the

Placing the ball

sweep to fine leg will offer the greater reward.

Now let us imagine a half-volley pitched on the leg stump. The batsman can safely and easily play it anywhere between the bowler and square-leg, according to his choice.

If mid-on is very straight and there is no man at mid-wicket, then he should go for the wide on drive past the fieldsmen's right side.

Conversely, if that man were stationed rather wide and there was a gap between the bowler and mid-on, the sensible thing would be to aim for the gap, i.e., almost a straight drive.

These are clear-cut instances of where the batsman can play which-

doesn't mean it can't be attacked. The batsman has room to manoeuvre by the use of his feet. A ball on the middle stump can quite often be safely turned to mid-on, forced back past the bowler or calmly placed towards the covers, where many singles go begging. This applies particularly when the wicket is good and a batsman well set.

Many times various shots can be played off a given ball. Take one short of a length 18 inches outside the off stump. The batsman has the option of playing the shot down the gully, a square cut, a forcing shot into the covers or even a pull shot to mid-wicket. Why not play the one which appears to offer the greatest yield?

If there is a man on the fence at third-man you know the gully shot will only yield a single. If cover is deep, the square cut and the pull may be the only possible fours. You may not be willing to risk one of them. You may think it safest to play the ball gently into the covers for one. But my point is that

by **SIR DONALD BRADMAN**

ever shot he likes, and naturally he should select the most profitable one. If it happens also to be the safer one, so much the better.

But the important thing is that he should be on the look out for the opportunity and not waste time playing the unprofitable stroke.

Any big gaps which invite scoring opportunities, especially those where the boundary is unprotected, should be pinpointed. A positive aggressive mental approach to batting is the only way to score at reasonable speed.

The man who thinks in terms of defence unless he receives a very bad ball is seldom ready to attack a bad one when it does arrive.

I saw a player go in recently and a survey of the off-side field revealed nobody between mid-off and gully. The first ball he received was a full pitch which went past him a foot off the ground and about the same distance outside the off stump. He promptly covered up with his pads, put the bat over his shoulder and allowed it to pass. I was dumbfounded. It was almost impossible for the fellow to have got out from the ball no matter what he did, and almost any sort of a drive must have yielded runs.

It was, you see, purely a mental attitude. He wasn't thinking in terms of anything but defence.

And just because a ball is of good length or on the stumps

you must be ready with the mental picture of the field before the ball is bowled, and be prepared to act.

This is very different from deciding on the shot before you know where the ball will be pitched.

We have all seen chaps thrashing hard drives into the covers for nought when all the time they could have been walking singles with softer shots.

The art of placing the ball is not only skill in stroke play—it is pitting your wits against the other fellow—deliberately at times playing shots to try to draw a fieldsmen a way from a position that you want opened up.

The really fast scorer over a period is not the wild slogger. He will make an extremely fast thirty today and then fail several times. The man who will come out on top is the one who is constantly looking for scoring opportunities—who does not neglect to nick up the singles when nothing better is offering—and who is always waiting to punch the ball through holes in the field which the opposing skipper leaves open.

There is endless scope and variety for the batsman in this art of placing the ball, and nothing demoralises a fielding side so much as the batsman who takes the initiative and refuses to be chained down by the bowler's tactics.

Publishers Rupa & Co
(to be continued)



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THE BERRY SARBADHIKARY COLUMN

'His' & 'her' in sport

IN 1948 I happened to address the Calcutta Rotary Club, the subject being, "Healthy mothers lead to a healthy nation." The emphasis in the talk was naturally on the young girls and women shaking off their prejudice and shyness to appear in public and take to various sports and other, with an appeal to their parents and guardians to be liberal enough to give their wards the freedom and not remain hidebound as in the past.

It was well received by the vast majority of the Rotarians and their guests, but even if not many at question-hour I could detect some murmurs of lingering protests from them. Consistent with my subject that day, advisedly had I taken as one of my two guests that wonderful girl of a gymnast and other amazing physical and Yogic feats, Reba Rakshit, a disciple from early on of the late, renowned Prof. Bishnu Ghose, who at one time was a rage in many countries including the USA and Japan.

And this strip of a girl had already specialised in pranayam, and without batting an eyelid could take on her apparently frail chest all sorts of heavy-weights including big elephants! A large number of photographs showing her feats were distributed to the Rotarians, and on the spot Reba Rakshit was invited to give a performance on the Rotary big night, the annual dinner which was readily accepted. I was away, but later learnt that the show was a signal success.

To go back to the substance of my talk partially, I did not have to labour on the import of my subject, which was obvious. Till then Anglo-Indian girls, and some of the Indian girls in what, broadly, could be called Anglo-Indian and Missionary schools, had taken to such games as badminton, table tennis, basketball, volleyball, a little of netball, etc., and, of course, lawn tennis, athletics, and hockey, following our men's world-wide, unquestioned supremacy in the last at the time.

But they were a very small minority. The plea in the talk was for the vast majority of Indian girls to break the barriers of the age-old bias, so-called traditions, and take to the sports arena, as future na-

tional assets. The stress was on gymnastics, too, and some of our indigenous games. Cricket was advocated also, if possible, in 1946, at the Kennington Oval, Surrey, I had seen some of the week's festival of women's cricket which impressed me. Incidentally, later Lord Constantine who coached then England vice captain, Betty Snowball to whom I was introduced by Learie - and she it was who specially invited me to The Oval.

In the talk, however, I warned girls and young women against taking to football, I had done some home-work and cited several top German medical authorities who were of the firm view that among other damages football did to the fair sex was the danger during their child birth. Those were the days of newspaper influence, and a good summary of the talk was carried all over by the news agencies. And Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, herself a capable tennis player, then Union Health Minister, sent me a ten page letter backing the stand against football along with certain other suggestions, as our general factorium of table tennis, Ranga Ramaswami, very close to Rajkumari, may confirm.

Well, today, apart from taking to other games in a big way, Indian girls and young women have been playing football also. Besides athletics, hockey and lawn tennis, in the international arena, Indian women seem to have fancied cricket very, very much obviously with the blessings of the Union Government and also backed up by AIR at home. So much so in fact, that with a Women's Test between Australia and India on at the Eden Gardens, Calcutta, the 33rd World TT, in the adjoining Stadium got AIR and TV coverage as if by magic.

Indeed, Women's cricket Test matches between India and New Zealand, Australia, West Indies, of late, have been plentiful, and in amazingly quick succession, which may or may not have to do anything with the Women's Lib year! Anyway, it is good to note that quite a few shackles have been broken in the once "forbidden" area, the Shanta Rangaswami and the Diana Eduljees etc, have come to the fore, and they have taken

their rightful position in the nation's sporting activities.

Personally, however, I am somewhat relieved that I do not have to report Women's cricket, as after a very long tenure with men, I might have mixed up "His" with "Her" in my despatches, but for a drowsy night sub-editor correcting me. Well, all the best to the newly emerged force in our national sporting life. And they are bound to make healthy mothers, too. And yet, lest we forget, even if from few, the lead had come from Jenny Sanderson, an admirable tennis player in the pre-war era, who took part in the Wimbledon and was considered at Calcutta's famous South Club good enough for a try, the hurdler Nilima Ghosh who was at the 1952 Helsinki Olympiad, and sprinter Leela Row who figured in the Melbourne Games of 1956. These are who readily come to mind, though there might have been just a few others who escape me today.

Whatever the MCC may be accused of, their passion of spreading cricket far and wide cannot be disputed. At the turn of the century, as well as before and after that, the MCC sent their teams to countries like even Argentina in South America. More significantly, they went to the West Indies a number of times, often at substantial financial loss, as also to India in 1926-27. True, these countries were in the "Empire" then, but the MCC's missionary zeal can be denied by only the churlish.

So, it was not surprising that the MCC would be sending a team, even if a "Minor" one for a brief visit shortly to Bangladesh. When this writer played in Dacca in undivided Bengal, and won then prestigious "Jackson Cup", the set up was entirely different, mostly Hindu cricketers of no mean ability comprising the local teams. In 1951-55 when I accompanied the Indian touring team, there was a splendid stadium for staging Tests. But, now, Bangladesh's cricket potential remains an unknown quantity. Just the same, one has to walk first before running, and it is hoped that the MCC will, by this tour, help Bangladesh with a helping hand which will have served nobly the MCC's objective.

Heard this one?

Two pigeons were talking as they stood on the boundary watching a cricket game.

'Now here's what we do,' said one. 'We wait till the bowler runs up and bowls, and then, as the batsman hits it, we suddenly fly up over the stand. It gets the crowd every time!'

SANAT, MERCY SHINE

by HOSEY MISTRY

WITH superlative efforts in his first and fifth putts, collegian Sanat Kulkarni (Khalsa College Gymkhana) twice bettered the national shot put mark (boys under 19) during the Greater Bombay Region Amateur Athletic Association's championships sponsored by Hoechst Pharmaceuticals.

Sanat's putts were 15.21 m and 15.39 m respectively to improve upon Paramjit Singh's Indian record (15.20 m) established in 1969. He also bettered his own Greater Bombay record (13.80 m -- 1975) during all his six efforts, and improved upon his own Maharashtra State mark (14.70 m -- 1975) in three attempts.

He registered a throwing double having won the discus with a poor effort of 42.04 m.

Sanat is a much better shot put-

ter this year having improved tremendously on his last year's performances. While he coordinated his strength with speed into a great culminative effort, he lacked speed in the turn during the discus throw and tended to drop his throwing arm.

Another athlete to give an encouraging performance was Juhu Sports Club's Mercy Menezes who was the only athlete to chalk up a record breaking treble. She improved upon three Greater Bombay records and bettered two Maharashtra State marks with performances of 13.4 secs (100 m run -- Bombay & State record), 1 min 50.2 secs (600 m -- Bombay & State record) and 10.9 secs (60 m hurdles -- Bombay record) in the girls under 14 section.

She has lived upto the promise shown during last year's Bombay



Ranu Gandhi bettered the timing for the 100 metres for boys under 13.



Mercy Menezes . . . belle of the meet. Pics: Hosey Mistry

High Schools and the Cadbury's meets. She has tremendous talent, and should go far in the future with modern training and coaching methods.

The performances amongst the juniors was very heartening, and the GBRAAA should seriously think of conducting clinics and coaching camps for this teen talent, or else it would go to waste. The parent body's responsibility to the sport does not end by the annual conduct of the championship and a few morning meets.

It is true that they are handicapped for the lack of facilities of training grounds. Let's hope the powers that be look at their problems sympathetically and encourage this sport which comes naturally to one and all.

During the four day meet 35 Greater Bombay, 16 Maharashtra State and one Indian record was improved upon, while seven Greater Bombay and four Maharashtra State marks were equalled.

A big pat on the back of the sponsors who have readily come forward to help this much neglected sports with no strings attached. A hearty thank to Hoechst.



Top: Finish of the men's 100 metres won by Leslie Louis (fifth from left), second was Sydney Vaz (fourth from left). Bottom: Women's 100 metres won by Lorraine Fernandes (right), second was Merlyn Fernandes (left)



Saant Kulkarni, winner of the shot put and discus throw... the most improved athlete of the meet

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Ranji round-up

NEVER before have so many teams had a stake in the West Zone Ranji Trophy league till the last tie, as this season Gujarat, who have finished their engagements to be last with nine points, are the only side without an interest in the league.

Bombay, as usual, lead the table with 18 points from three matches. With one match to go Maharashtra and Saurashtra who have 13 points each, and Baroda (11) are all in the running for the second berth, and an entry to the knockout rounds. Baroda and Saurashtra have never made the knockout. It has been Bombay and Maharashtra on every occasion but one — in 1974/75 when Gujarat displaced Maharashtra.

For Maharashtra to qualify, it will need a first innings win over Bombay in their concluding tie on December 25. Baroda and Saurashtra could still queer the pitch if one beats the other outright. First innings decision could well result in a triple tie and bring the slide into play to decide the quotient.

Baroda and Saurashtra have been laying their best season for many a year. Baroda reached a peak when they totalled 453 against Bombay in Bombay. But a week later they touched a low in catching to let Maharashtra walk away with five innings points. The experienced Madhu Gupte and Hemant Kanitkar had been having a lean spell, their last should have continued had not their catches been spilled. The imaginative field placing by Anshuman Gaekwad frittered runs away to Gupte and Kanitkar who went to score centuries to give Maharashtra the vital lead. Their success was cru-

It's a close race



Sunil Gavaskar cutting against Baroda

cial. There was not much batting to come after them. Raju Bhalekar has been batting like a champion from the start but then getting out to hasty shots. Ramesh Borde had a good fifty against Gujarat but has fallen off and may yield his place to a spinner, like left-armier Madhav Ranade who has yet to play a game this season. Their

suspect batting prevents Maharashtra from fielding a full complement of spinners: offspin (Anant Solkar), leftarm (Ranade) and legspin (Saldhana) all in one match.

At Rajkot, on matting, against Saurashtra, they left out both Solkar and Ranade and paid a dear price. Used to the short stuff Salgaonkar, Shaikh and Afzal Pathan hurled down on the slow mat, the Saurashtra batsmen made merry as they chased Maharashtra's 277 — achieved mainly through a maiden century by Stanley Saldhana and Yajurvindra Singh's 52. Opener Bharat Mandavia thrived on his thumping backfoot drive to the wide of point and the slash over gully's head. He was well supported by sedate opener Kiran Chauhan, who impressed on his debut, and Arvind Panchasara, who had developed the ungainly habit of pushing at the ball instead of reaching for it with relaxed footwork. Ramesh Patel, the veteran, hit out with adventurous shots towards the end.

Maharashtra have problem of riches in mediumpace bowling. They have left out in two matches Subhash Paine who had a fine debut against Gujarat.

In contrast, Bombay have a big



Yajurvindra makes a gallant but vain attempt to catch Mandavia off Salgaonkar at Rajkot

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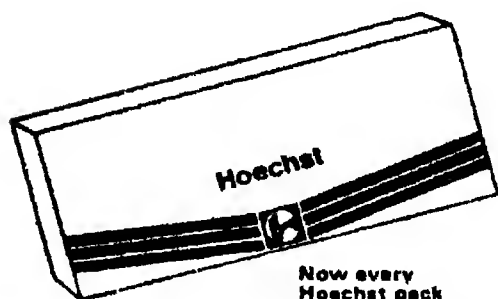
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gap after Ghavri and Ismail. Their spin department is also bare and they have now chosen to discard Ranjan Badindoor the offspinner for Zarepkar after one bad match — against Baroda when Shivalkar too bowled only as well as the batsmen allowed on the innocuous wicket Anshuman Gaekwad (54) Sudhir Kulkarni (68) Narayan Satham (135) and Cecil Williams (83) batted with purpose. They had gift voucher of runs from leg spinner Rakesh Tandon, who this season has bowled all over the place except the shortleg's feet. If he does it Bombay watchers won't be surprised.

However, Tandon atoned for it with a sensational century as Bombay's run-chase culminated successfully during the mandatory overs. His batting was far from the slog-ging bowlers indulge in. Every drive was played along the ground with correct timing. Chasing Baroda's 153, Bombay needed runs from Gavaskar and Venkatarao as the prolific Arhok Manind was not playing owing to injury. They came gone with 70 and 80 respectively. Soikar and Ghavri also pitched in with their contributions but at tea the target was way off.

Tandon soon changed the course of things and during the mandatory count turned Baroda's thoughts towards fixing runs away to exploit the anomaly in the points system whereby one gains a point if one loses on the first innings and does not force no decision.

It was the second time this season that Bombay had pulled out a match out of nowhere. Shot out for 79 and conceding a first-innings lead of 26 they fought back to beat Saurashtra by 161 runs. This reverse did not deter Saurashtra who have gone from strength to strength. They have a useful seam trio of Rajendra Jadeja, Jude Fernandes and Naresh Parsana but have a shortage of spin — only left arm Ajitsingh Jhala, who bowls with a Durrani type action. This lack of spin handicapped them in their effort to force an outright win over Maharashtra. Their catching further let them down — for Raju Bhalekar and Nicky Saldhana were let off several times before they made the game safe.

In their third tie, Saurashtra beat Gujarat by 112 runs. Without four regulars, including the versatile Dhiraj Parsana, the Gujarat batting was extremely shaky. In reply to Saurashtra's 311 they were all out for 219. Saurashtra showed little initiative to score fast and force a win. Even so Gujarat folded up in three hours to the amiable offspin of Naresh Parsana — their inexperienced batsmen waving their bats with much spirit and no gumption. They saw no honour in a draw. Or did they value a favour to Saurashtra, from which a few of their boys hail, by losing outright?

If that is so, Saurashtra should



Dilip Vengsarkar . . driving against Baroda

realise that that is the end of the charity as they move away from home to Baroda for the final tie. It will be well fought on the Motibaugh wicket which had

turned its back on bowlers. So it is batting which will be crucial just as in the match 400 miles away in Pune the 'Roses' tussle between Bombay and Maharashtra.

Figures are fun

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THE massive total of 687 for 8 declared built up by West Indies at The Oval on August 12 and 13, 1976, is their highest ever in 71 Tests against England and their second highest in 173 Tests against all countries. In point of fact a total of 650 plus has so far been achieved 18 times in Test annals, — on nine occasions by Australia, four times each by England and West Indies, and once by Pakistan.

ENGLAND			
903 — 7 dec	v Aus (The Oval)		1938
849	v WI (Kingston)		1929-30
658 — 8 dec	v Aus (Trent Bridge)		1938
654 — 5	v SA (Durban)		1938-39
WEST INDIES			
790 — 3 dec	v Pak (Kingston)		1957-58
667 — 8 dec	v Eng (The Oval)		1976
681 — 8 dec	v Eng (Port of Spain)		1953-54
652 — 8 dec	v Eng (Lord's)		1973

AUSTRALIA			
758 — 9 dec	v WI (Kingston)		1954-55
729 — 6 dec	v Eng (Lord's)		1930
701	v Eng (The Oval)		1934
695	v Eng (The Oval)		1930
674	v Ind (Adelaide)		1947-48
668	v WI (Bridgetown)		1954-55
659 — 8 dec	v Eng (Sydney)		1946-47
656 — 8 dec	v Eng (Old Trafford)		1964
650 — 6 dec	v WI (Bridgetown)		1964-65

PAKISTAN			
657 — 8 dec	v WI (Bridgetown)		1957-58

The highest totals by the three remaining Test-playing countries not represented in the list above are:

SOUTH AFRICA			
622 — 9 dec	v Aus (Durban)		1969-70
NEW ZEALAND			
551 — 9 dec	Eng (Lord's)		1973
INDIA :			
539 — 9 dec	v Pak (Madras)		1960-61

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QUESTION BOX

by CHATTERBOX

Q WHO was F M Engineer's partner in India's Test series in England in 1967?

—X A Chandia Mohan (Bobbili)

A HE had a different partner for each of the three Tests — Ramesh Saxena for the first, D N. Sardesai for the second and Budhi Kunderan for the third

Q COULD you kindly let me know the date of birth of England skipper Tony Greig?

—Narasimha Nayak (Udipi)

A OCTOBER 6, 1946

Q WHO was the umpire concerned in the controversial decision against Venkatraghavan that sparked off a riot in the Bombay Test against Australia in 1969/70?

—S K Deshpande (Bombay)

A SHAMLU PAN

Q WHAT is the distance of the boundary from the pitch?

S M Padhanwala (Cholwad),

A NORMALLY 30 yards

Q HOW many have led India in Test matches so far?

—C G Bhaskar (Madras 1)

A BISHEN SINGH PEDI is the 19th skipper

Q A stroke by a batsman is the non-striker before it is held by a fielder. Is the batsman out caught?

—Dileep Ashok Vaidya (Bombay 14)

A YES

Q WHO won the men's singles title in the 1975 French Open Tennis Championships?

—Nishant Singhal (Calcutta 29)

A BJORN BORG, of Sweden. He beat G Vilas 6-2, 6-3, 6-4, in the final

Q THE partners' rackets clash as they make a return in a tennis match. Who gets the point?

—Hari (New Delhi 3)

A IT is a good return if the ball has come from the racket of one of the players even if the rackets had clashed

Q DO you think the Pakistan cricket team is stronger than ours?

—B Mustafa (Srinagar 2)

A THAT's the exciting question to which the cricket boards of the two countries must try and find an answer



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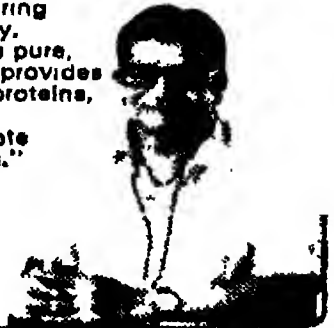
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YOUTHFUL debutants brought India to the fore in the week-long sixth Southern Asia Yachting Regatta on the shimmering waters of the picturesque Hussainsagar Lake in Secunderabad.

In both individual contests — the two-man Enterprise and the newly introduced one-man OK dinghy classes — Indian sailors made certain of their wins at the end of the sixth race despite the opportunity to discard one out of seven races.

However, Sri Lanka avenged its defeat in the team event at Balgoda (Sri Lanka) last year to regain the title and the Lipton Trophy from India. The trophy was with Sri Lanka from 1970 till India wrested it in this annual regatta last year.

With Pakistan having cried off this year, the team event was a two-race affair sailed in the Enterprise class. Each nation was represented by three helmsmen and crew with boats exchanged by countries in the second race.

This upset the schedule in an otherwise remarkably well-organised regatta. The SAYR as well as the Second National OK Dinghy Championship held the week earlier was under the burgee of the FME Sailing Association (FMESA).

Undoubtedly, the team event was the most exciting with keen sailing as those who came in last also mattered. India had a slight edge when it secured 10 points to Sri Lanka's 10.75 at the end of the first race. But, in the second the Sri Lanka yachtsmen did well to gain the prime, second and fourth places to score only 7.75 to India's 13. In all, Sri Lanka's tally was

India sail to the fore

18.5 to India's 23, in emerging winner.

With national Enterprise class champion Afzar Hussain and veteran Surinder Mongia not available for the SAYR, India's hopes in this class rested on D. K. Kanwar, runner-up at the Khadakvasa Nationals in July, and V. P. Singh.

Of the two, V. P. Singh fared better. Deploying cover tactics he finished second and fourth in the races while making a bid to help his compatriots move up. For Kanwar it was a bad day having finished last in one race and pulled out of the other.

This is not to undermine the versatility of Romesh Ilankoon in finishing first and second and the grit of Asita Tennekoon in rising from the last place to the first in the two-race contest.

The superior dexterity of the Sri Lanka yachtsmen put them as favourites for the individual event in the Enterprise class.

Nineteen year old Sanjiv Sidhu with 18-year old Katya Rangadas—the lone woman sailor this year also her first competition—as crew claimed the Lewis Brown trophy.

As expected, 23-year-old M. S. Pillay made sure of his name being carved first on the newly and glittering Allwyns Trophy annexing the OK dinghy individual event.

Yet, it was a thrilling finish on the last day, with Sri Lanka helmsmen taking the second, third and

fourth places in the Enterprise class.

Sri Lanka skipper Nihal Jinaseena scored a convincing win in the last race to beat Asita Tennekoon and Romesh Ilankoon to the runner-up position.

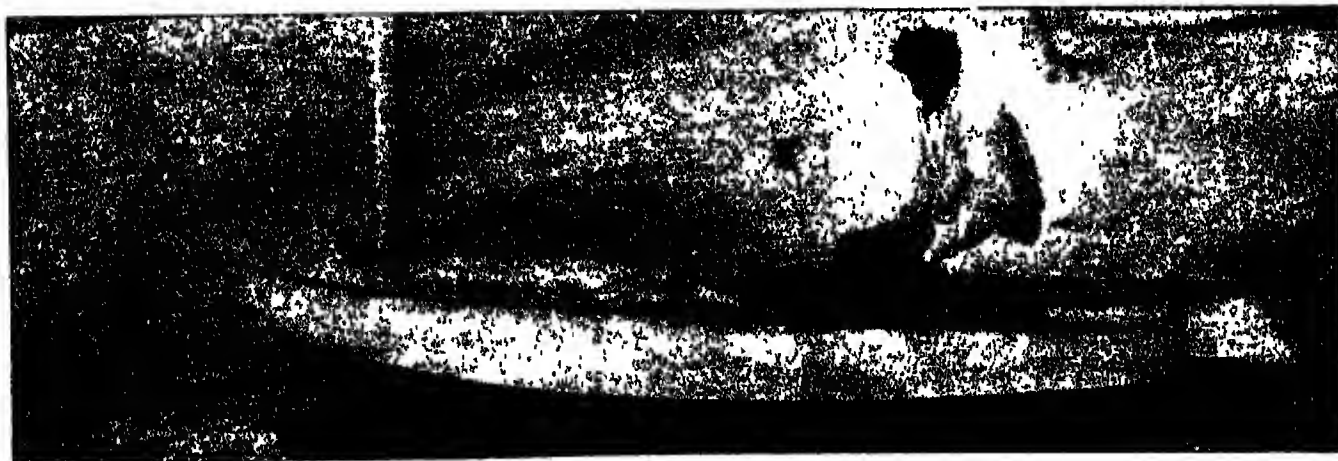
The final standings after discarding a race in the seven-race event was: 1. Sanjiv Sidhu and Katya Rangadas (17), 2. Nihal Jinaseena and Francis Belling (25.1), 3. Romesh Ilankoon and Lallin Jirasinha (33.4) and 4. Asita Tennekoon and Heinrich Henkel (38.6).

M. S. Pillay who coasted to a comfortable win the seventh race had a tally of six firsts and a second (Zero points). S. Gawri (20.7) with five seconds and two thirds was the runner-up. The next two places went to V. K. Dhir (39.1) and Deepak S. Dikshit (47.4).

C. S. Pradipak (Secunderabad Sailing Club) retained the Katari Bowl and M. S. Pillay (Corps of Engineers Sailing Club) the runner-up position with ease. Debutant and the youngest sailor, 15-year old Aditya Mohan Rao (SSC) finished third. Their points position 3, 24.7 and 35.4.

Winners were decided on the six best performances in seven races. The next three were Deepak S. Dikshit (FMESA)—38.1, S. Gawri (Indian Navy Sailing Association)—38.7 and V. P. Singh (CESC)—73.4 with the last of them having dropped from the third place last year.

—STAND-BYK



M. S. Pillay, winner of the Allwyn Trophy and the OK dinghy championship



Anand Amritraj failed to produce singles final

National Lawn

Pics HOSEY MISTRY

Vijay Amritraj, after some tough early matches, had little difficulty in regaining the singles crown

Haroon Rahim, the second seed, went down lamely to Anand Amritraj in the semis



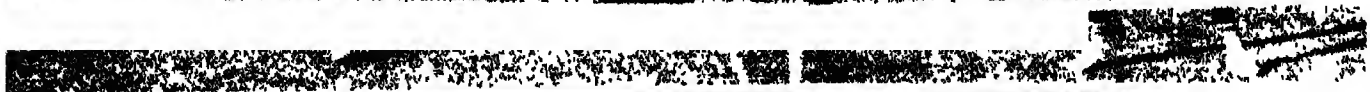
Nandan Bal of Pune won the senior boys singles in the absence of the Krishnans



Amrita Ahluwalia of Madras won the girls' final beating the older Susan Sinclair Jones



Nirupama Mankad once again triumphed over her old rival, Susan Das



Tony Greig declares:

"Muscle cramps don't cramp my style. Iodex puts me back in action."



It is a time of challenge for MCC's skipper Tony Greig, a time when more than ever before the eyes of the world will be upon the towering 29-year-old

A fighter to the fingertips, Tony Greig is in top attacking form. He is going all out to consolidate his position and establish his place among the great stars of cricket. Winning to him is everything

Tony's cricket is exciting but not excitable. Bruised feelings he takes in his stride, but bruises he takes seriously "Bruises, muscle cramps and stiff joints are part of a cricketer's life," he says, "but 100% physical fitness is essential in this game I always use Iodex because it brings me fast relief—puts me back in action fast."



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necessity has to be gone through. It is the duty of the AIFF to ensure that the National is the premier tournament in the country and not one to be treated nonchalantly.

For the National to produce the best fare, the AIFF should lay down that no tournament should come in the way of preparations of the participants. This year the dates for the National at Patna have been fixed as December 29 to January 25. The AIFF should have instructed their units to complete all their tournaments at least three weeks before the Santosh Trophy.

The Rovers Cup, that began in early November without a draw, has dragged on till almost the last week of December. Three Bombay teams and one each from Bengal, Indian Railways, Goa and Karnataka were the quarter-finalists. And all of them will contain the bulk of the players representing their states or unit (Railways) in the National.

Goa will be the most affected. They play Rajasthan on the opening day and Nagaland two days later in what is expected to be the toughest pool. With Dempo in the semi-

finals, which will be played on a double-leg and likely to be in the final — this is being written before their result against Mafatlal Group is known, Goa will not have time to train together before they take the field.

Maharashtra's team had not been picked till December 15, but they play their first match on January 7. It must be remembered though that the Super League finished early in November and current form of only the three teams in the quarter-finals could be gauged. That could be a handicap to the selectors.

Incidentally, when Customs and Central Excise, Cochin, drew with Hindustan Aeronautics in the last week of November, the Kerala F.A. anxiously trunk-called to "request" them to be back for state team trials by December 2 or 3. The Kerala team, I understand, is being trained at the National Institute of Sports (Bangalore) by Kittu, assisted by Gopalakrishnan and Ramachandran.

Indian Telephone Industries' long stay in Bombay also must have caused the Karnataka F.A. problems in moulding a strong team.

THE All India Football Federation makes a hue and cry whenever Calcutta clubs do not release their players for camps and the national team, thereby implying that they are being denied an opportunity to prepare adequately for international events. But they do not apply the same criterion when ensuring that their affiliates send their best teams and in the best of condition to the National Football Championship.

Before the AIFF disclaim any responsibility for the preparation of state teams let me stress that unless states pick their best and send them well trained and prepared they are guilty of reducing the National to an event that of



Mafatlal's Abdul Sayeed leaps in to support goalkeeper Maity who took a tumble after thwarting BNR's Chatterjee in the Rovers Cup

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ROVERS CUP

Pics : RIO



ITI goalkeeper Sundaresan collects a high centre which Salgaocar's Irineu had chased hopefully



Central Railway's A Swanu (second from right) attempts a desperate interception as Wimco's Nigerian striker David Williams is poised to shoot. Wimco lost 2-3



Salgaocar's Irineu shoots as he is being challenged by Reserve Bank's Menezes Salgaocar won 4-0

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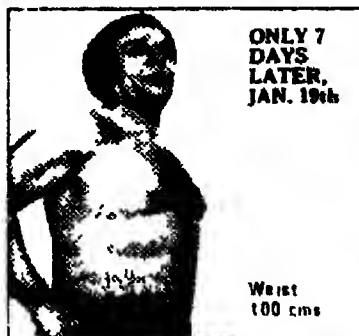
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SWB I

SB I



KNOW YOUR STARS

J. Mohan Kumar

It's not always easy to be the son of a footballer. While other youngsters could wallow in the satisfaction of successes in junior football, my father would prick my bubbling ego subtly by drawing attention to the mistakes I made and the deficiencies in my game that caused them. Soon, however, I realised the exposures were to my good. My father, John, played centre-forward for Binny Mills and Mysore. And he did his best to help me make the grade as a centre-forward at Madras Engineering Group School at Bangalore.

My performances at school must have been impressive enough for 515 Army Base Workshop to sign me on in 1969. But any thought that I may blossom into a centre-forward of note was quickly dispelled by coach Muthu, the former HAL and India full back and father of the present ITI and Karnataka left-winger Rajasekhar. Muthu advised me that I lacked the speed in sudden spurts and chases after a ball and the acceleration so essential for success at centre-forward. He suggested that I would make a better deep defender and tried me out at right wing back.

This year I represented the country as right wing back in the Jaisan Celebrations tournament at Kabul and the Merdeka tournament at Kuala Lumpur and as right wing back as well as right stopper in the President Park Cup at Seoul. That is evidence of how well Muthu had guided me in my career.

I must acknowledge my debt to Muthu. He took great pains to help me settle in the new position and improve my game. Besides making me doing special exercises and sprints after training sessions, Muthu also devised practice methods involving Chidambaram and Rajendran, the right-in back and the right-half, respectively, to help me gain a better understanding of the demands of my new position. Occasionally the left-in back also was drafted for these practice sessions. Gradually I found playing in defence easier. One more evidence of the wisdom of Muthu in shaping my career.

I had a fairly good first season for 515 Army Base Workshop and ITI took me on for the next season. I have been with ITI for six years now and have no desire to leave them, though I have offers from some Calcutta clubs and Tata Sports Club of Bombay. With ITI my football has steadily improved. The many tournaments I played in the south as well as in the Durand in Delhi have helped in giving me the chance to learn from playing against as well as from watching



some of the leading players in the country

Incidentally my many appearances in Tamil Nadu tournaments have made some mistake me for Samson Gunapandian's younger brother. The former Indian Railways, Tamil Nadu and India inside-back's lean build, though he must be taller than my five foot ten, and movements could have been a model for me. As a matter of fact, though the resemblance is accidental, not a deliberate imitation.

I have never played in the Junior National nor for India in the Asian Youth tournament. In fact, when I was first chosen for Karnataka for the senior National Championship at Goa in 1972 I was already 23. I did not play a game in the National at Goa, missed the next at Ernakulam and played my first game for my state in the National at Jullundur in 1974.

My displays in the National earned me an invitation to the camp to pick the national team for the Marah Halim tournament in Medan, Indonesia. But I was not found good enough for a berth in

the final team. Still being in the camp was educative. Basha, who was in charge of the camp, continued to teach me the finer points of positioning, both to receive a ball as well as to cut out a pass to an opponent. My skill at heading away the ball, especially the one intended to go over me to a forward swooping in behind me, grew better and better.

The improvement in skills and reading of the game have made Kantharaj and me a confident pair of centre back in the ITI team. For the state team, however, Kantharaj stays in the left-in back position, while I switch back to right-wing back. This has enabled me to be versatile in the India team as well.

In the Merdeka tournament I played throughout at right wing-back, the position I occupied in the first match against South Korea in the President Park Cup in Seoul in September last. Perhaps it was because I was a bit nervous in my first big international tournament, but I was not very happy with my displays in the Merdeka. In the Park Cup I felt I fared better. Partly it may be due to the experience gained in the Merdeka and partly due to coach Basha's ability to analyse the opposition and guide us accordingly. Also I found Kerala's C. C. Jacob as one of the in backs more encouraging.

I would like to point out that while I admired the skills of many players I saw in Kuala Lumpur and Seoul, especially Malaysian ace Mokhtar Dahari and the South Korean left winger and right half, what impressed me most was that the leading teams hardly assigned their players to any fixed positions. They move and position according to the flow of the play. This was what made the ball-playing Brazilian team, who shared the President Park Cup, so attractive and effective.

Text: Sharp Shooter

Pic: Rio

HEARD THIS ONE?

An international football star was called as a witness in a court case.

Afterwards, one of his teammates said, 'How could you have the cheek to stand up in court and call yourself the world's greatest inside-forward?'

'Well, I had to,' answered the star. 'Remember, I was under oath.'

International Cricketer Tony Greig recommends Erasmic

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BRIDGE

by JIMMY MEHTA

LAST week's hand

x x
A x x
A x x x
J 8 x x
N
S
A K x x
K x x
Q x
K Q 7 x

Contract INT by S, Heart Queen led, ducked all round, a low heart continuation fetching East's 10, won in hand Club King, ten from West and ducked by East, a club to the knave won by East (West pitching a low spade). East returns spade Queen which you win.

At this stage you need the Diamond King on your right to have any chance. After the last round club duck, however, you lack an

aces in dummy to play a diamond, finesse clubs and cash the Diamond Ace. Your best hope is to throw East in with a spade for a diamond return.

The play thus far marks West with five hearts and one club. His spade discard on the second club is strongly suggestive of three spades or five, which gives him either 3, 5, 4, 1 or 5, 5, 2, 1. You should try to cater for both situations. If West is 3, 5, 4, 1 you are home, but in case he is 5, 5, 2, 1 you should give yourself the extra chance of QJ doubleton in spades with East. Has he fetched? Perhaps, but it is a free hit.

A low spade return after winning the Spade Queen is perfectly safe. Say, West wins and knocks out your heart Ace, a club finesse & Club, cashed followed by a spade throw in on East is still open but the low spade play at trick six

gives you that extra chance, which makes all the difference.

The full hand —

	x x	
	A x x	
	A x x x	
	J 8 x x	
10 x x x x		Q J
Q J 9 8 7		10 x
x x		K J 10 9 x
10		A 9 x x
	A K x x	
	K x x	
	Q x	
	K Q 7 x	

Only that slight extra precaution of catering for QJ doubleton of spades with East takes in the chips. But isn't that the sort of thing which parts the men from the boys at bridge? Incidentally unless East ducks the first club, declarer has an easy ride.



Two scenes from the National Bridge Championships now in progress at the Brabourne Stadium, Bombay

JCT, BSF share the cup

ANOTHER Durand Football Tournament has come and gone highlighting once again the fall in the standard of the game and also in sportsmanship. JCT Mills, Phagwara, heavily banked on Inder Singh and the latter did them proud, helping them to share the trophy with Border Security Force of Jullundur. The teams met twice in the final and each time the match ended one-all.

From the first match they played, JCT Mills' overdependence on the fabulous Inder Singh was obvious. This fine player can turn the tide on his own strength, no matter what the opposition is. And Calcutta's well-knit Mohun Bagan, easily the best team on paper, will testify to Inder's skill. It was he who laid them low with two superb goals midway through the second

half when they met in the quarter final league.

Mohun Bagan of course had their problems, most of them of their own making. Habib and Bhowmick, two of the biggest names in Indian football, were often at odds with each other and this spoiled the rhythm of the whole team. Still there was no denying Inder's genius.

Mohun Bagan with only a victory over Leader in their opening match of the league were in a precarious position of having two points from two matches. They did win the third match against Dempo, Goa, beating them 1-0. Their showing was rather insipid but with the galaxy of stars in their ranks one thought they would improve in the semi-finals. But they never got a chance.

Leader and JCT contrived to finish Mohun Bagan off in a seemingly exciting but definitely friendly affair. In a surprising shock result Leader beat JCT by four goals to two and went into the semi-finals on a better goal average. Mohun Bagan officials were sore but there was little they could do about it.

In the other group East Bengal even without four of their star players (Gautam Sarkar, Tarun Bose, Sudhir Karmakar and Ashoke Bannerjee) did fairly well to head the pool. In the process they even beat the holders, Border Security Force in a battle of tactics.

East Bengal's other two victories were over CIL, Bangalore whom they just about managed to beat 1-0 and Mohammedan Sporting



JCT's hero Inder Singh tackles four BSF backs in the final. Inder literally carried JCT to the top

Club whose defence let them down East Bengal won this tie 2-0

BSF were the other semi-finalists. Border Security Force were lucky to be the other semi-finalist. They drew with CIL, Bangalore and beat Mohammedan Sporting to finish with three points from three outings. But Mohammedan Sporting did them a favour when they held CIL, Bangalore to a one-all draw. A victory for CIL meant that BSF would be out. But the draw finished both Mohammedan Sporting and CIL.

In the semi-finals East Bengal and JCT played out draw in the first meeting and in the second JCT beat them 7-5 in the tie breaker. This was a fairly good match with the contestants more or less evenly matched, JCT calling the tune in the early part and East Bengal taking over after that.

The other semi-final saw Border Security Force thrashing Leader by three goals to one. There was never any doubt about Border Security Force's superiority.

The final between the two Punjab teams was a bit disappointing. It was a rough affair in the first meeting with the BSF boys carrying on a verbal assault on the referee for disallowing a goal (this was off side). The referee used his authority even after that match when he showed a red card to Manjit Singh.

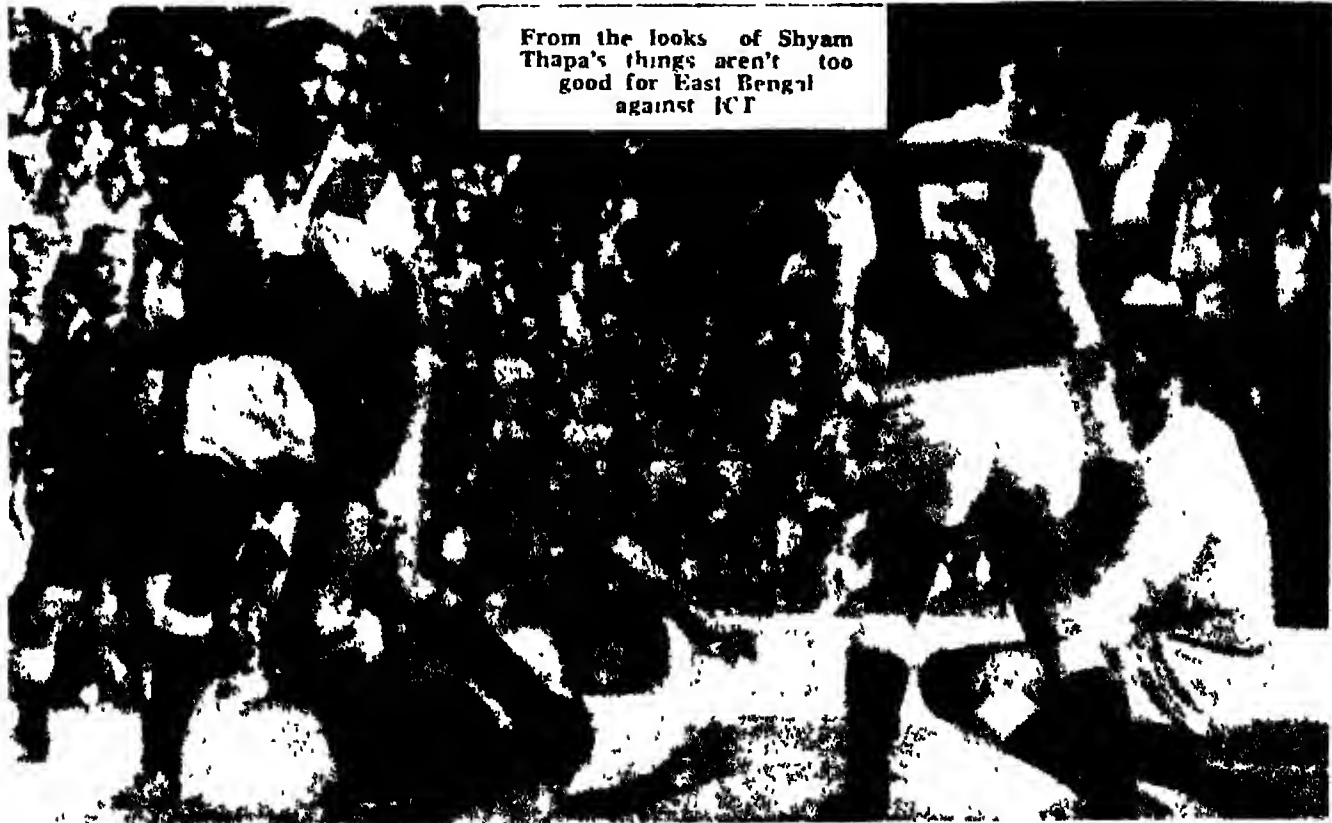
Manjit however was there in the second meeting too but the teams knew each other's secrets too well and the match again ended one all.



JCT's Parmar literally brushes aside an East Bengal defender in the semi-final

One last word about supervision. With the balance of power shifting to North, there has been apparently too much pressure on the referees and linesmen. Quite a number of them appear to be afraid of taking decisions against some of

these teams. Understandably a section of the crowd are hostile to any opposition to their favourites but surely it is not helping the game. If the Durand has to continue to run well it would be advisable to rotate the venues.



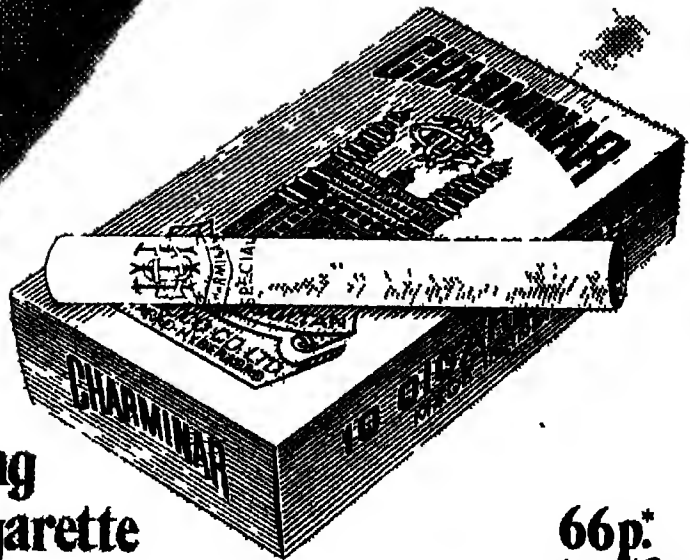
From the looks of Shyam Thapa's things aren't too good for East Bengal against JCT

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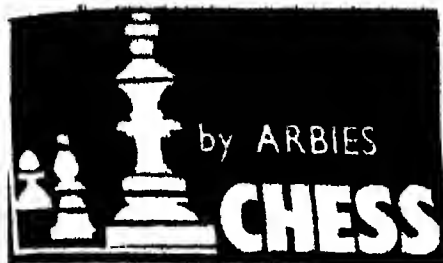


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CHVS-164-234



AN important part of preparation for a tournament is to specialise in some opening variations not in general use. In this game, played in the National Chess championship at Calcutta, Aaron uses the little-known Alekhine's Variation in Queen's Gambit. Gambit accepted.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT ACCEPTED

White K B L Shrivastava

Black M Aaron

1. PQ4, PQ4 2. PQB4, PxP 3. NKB3, NKB3 4. NB3, (a) PQR3 5. PK3, BN5 6. BxP, PK3 7. QO, BK2 8. PKR3, RR4 9. QK2, PQN4 10. BN3, PB4 11. PXP, BxP 12. PK4, QO (b) 13. BN5, QN3? (c) 14. PN4, BN3 15. PK5 (d) KNO2 16. QRO1, QN2 17. RQ2, PR3 18. BKR4, PN5 19. NR4, BK5 (e) 20. NxB, NxB 21. RO1, QNO2 22. NQ4? (f) NXP 23. PB3, NN3 24. BN3, BQ4 25. BOB2, NK2 26. PN3, KRQ1 27. QK3, QRB1 28. NK2, NQ2 29. BR4, NKB1 (g)

30. NB4, RB6 31. BQ3, RQ2 32. BxN, RxB 33. NxB, PxN 34. QB2, NK3 35. QN3, NB4! 36. BN1, NK5! (h) 37. BxN PxB 38. QB4, PxP! 39. R(2)B2 (i) RK5 40. QO6, R(5)K6 41. QB4, QN3 42. KR1, PN4 43. QB5, QOB3, 44. KN1, RB4 (j) 45. QN1, QB2 46. QO1, QN6ch 47. KR1, R(4)B6 (k) 48. PKR4, R(K)Q6 49. QK1, QxPch 50. RR2, QxQ 51. RxQ, KN2 and White soon resigned.

(a) 4. PK3, BN5 5. BxP, PK3 6. QN3, BxN 7. PxP, QNO2 8. QxP, PB4 giving up a Pawn for development is Aaron's favourite. After the text move 4. PQR3 5. PQR4, NB3 6. PK4, BN5 gives Black a satisfactory game. More entertaining for White is 5. PK4, PQN4 6. PK5, NO4 7. PQR4, NxB 8. PxN, BN2 9. PK6!?

(b) Aaron considered here 12. QNO2 13. PK5, BxN 14. PxP, NR4 15. NK1, QR5 16. RQ1 and rejected it, but afterwards saw that 16. NN6 wins.

(c) A bold decision allowing doubling of the KBP rather than choosing the passive 13. BK2.

(d) White should have taken up the challenge by 15. BxN, PxP 16. PKR4.

(e) 19. BQR2 20. BB2, BxB 21. RxB, QNB3 22. QK4 is to White's advantage.

(f) This loses the KP. Possibly

White has overlooked 23. NN3.

(g) The Black Knights are eying Q4 and KN3 and White has to prevent their occupation of these vital squares.

(h) Winning the pinned White KBP as the Knight has to be taken by the Bishop 37. RxP? intending 37. NxB? 38. RQ8ch mating fails to 37. QN3ch.

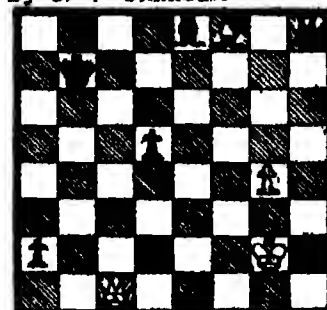
(i) The trap 39. RQ8ch, KR2 40. QB5ch, PN3 41. QB6 threatening mate is defeated by 41. PB7ch!

(j) 44. RB8 was simpler.

(k) Not 47. QxPch 48. RR2, QxP 49. QO8ch, KN2 50. QO6.

END GAME

By S. V. Simhadri



White Kg2, Qc1; Bf8, Pg4
Black Kb7, Qh8; Be8, P's-a2, d5.
White to play and draw.

Cricketers of the week — 30

BIRTHS

December 20. W J O'Reilly (Aus) 1905, K Ibadulla (Pak) 1935

December 21. J L Hendricks (WI) 1931, Hanif Mohammed (Pak) 1934, K D Walters (Aus) 1945

December 22. C M Old (Eng) 1948

December 23. A F R Gilligan (Eng) 1894

December 24. R A Sinfield (Eng) 1901, M C Cowdrey (Eng) 1932

December 25. C V Gimmatt (Aus) 1891, H J Howarth (NZ) 1943

DEATHS

December 19. J W H T Douglas (Eng) 1930, H Makepeace (Eng) 1932

December 20. L. Ramji (Ind) 1948.

December 21. Sir J B Hobbs (Eng) 1963

December 22. L. C Braund (Eng) 1955.

December 23. A F. Richardson (Aus) 1973

— K ISWARA DUTT

How much do you know?

by HOSEY MISTRY

1. What action does the referee take when a boxer who is down resumes after a count of eight, but goes down again without being hit?
2. Can a pole-vaulter refuse permission for the use of his fibre glass pole by other vaulters?
3. In hockey, is a bully permitted within four yards of the goal-line?
4. In chess, on reaching the eighth rank to which piece is the pawn promoted?
5. When will a two hands snatch lift be passed?
6. In ball badminton, two players go for a high ball, one returns

it but their rackets clash, what is your decision as the umpire?

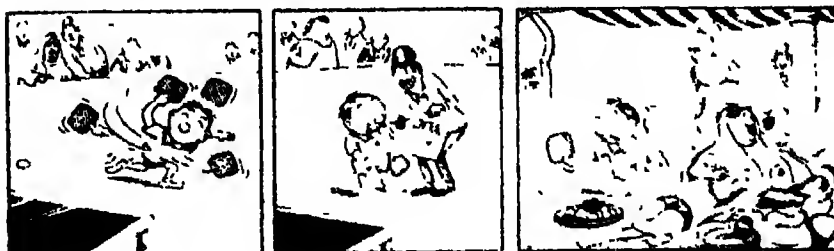
7. The ball is thrown directly into the opponent's goal, what should be the football referee's decision?

ANSWERS.

1. He continues counting from eight 2. Yes 3. No It should not be played within five yards of the goal line 4. At the player's choice it can be promoted to a Queen, a Rook, a Bishop or a Knight 5. When the weight which has been correctly lifted, is maintained in the final motionless position, with arms and legs extended and feet on the same line. 6. It is a fault. 7. Goal-kick

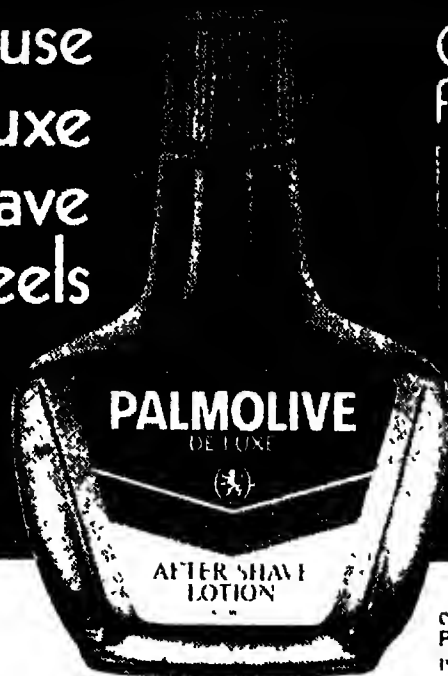
SPORTING SAM

by Reg Wootton



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The ball is missing in the photo alongside. Just mark a cross (X) where you think the ball is. Fill in the coupon and mail your entry to: 'SPORTSWEEK-SAHARA Spot-the-Ball Contest', Sportsworld, 156, D J Dadajee Road, Bombay 400 034.

You may send as many entries as you like, but each must be accompanied by a coupon. Only one cross should be marked on the photo.

CLOSING DATE: 4th JAN

Results will be published in the issue of Sportsworld dated 16th Jan. '77.

If more than one correct entry is received, the prizes will be shared by lot among the winners. The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence will be entertained.

BUZZING AROUND

by BUSYBEE

I HAVE often wondered how cricketers, busy as they are, find time to write books. So, I decided to interview Sunil Gavaskar to find out how he wrote "Sunny Days."

During the drinks break, in the Delhi Test, I went on the field, disguised as a drinks boy. I handed Gavaskar a glass of limbu pani and asked him, "Please, could you tell me how you found the time to write your book? The readers are most anxious to know."

"I will try my best to answer your question," said Gavaskar, always polite. "Most of it I wrote while travelling between matches. As a matter of fact I finished an entire chapter while flying from New Zealand to West Indies."

"Very sensible," I said, handing him a towel. "What about hotel rooms, did you write a lot in them?"

"Oh, yes," said Gavaskar, "all the time. When I was not signing

autographs, I was writing my book."

"A busy cricketer has to write his book wherever he finds the time," I said.

By this time, the drinks boys were leaving the field, but I stayed on, disguised as Chandrasekhar.

Standing in the slips, shoulder to shoulder, Gavaskar told me, "Some of my best writing I have done early in the mornings, on the opening days of Tests, when the captains go out to toss. Early mornings always inspire me to write."

"Yes," I said, "a lot of writers have told me that."

"If I got out early, I sat in the pavilion or the dressing room and wrote, wrote, wrote. And if the tail wagged a little and the later batsmen carried on, I had a lot of time to write," he said.

"Nice," I said.

"Excuse me," said Gavaskar, as he ran after a ball pushed through the slips by Amis. After he had returned it to the bowler, he told me, "You will recall the time when I had fractured my finger and could not play. At that time I finished three chapters. Though, of course, I had to dictate them as I could not type them myself with a broken finger."

"Of course," I said.

"The final part of the book, I had to really rush through," he said. "Often I would write between overs or standing at the bowler's end when my partner was batting."

Captain Bedi was rearranging his field and he sent Gavaskar to square leg. I went and stood beside him, disguised as the leg umpire.

Gavaskar said, "I started taking most of my runs in fours, since the time taken fetching the ball from the boundary. I could utilise writing."

"Good," I said.

"I also wrote when play was held up because spectators kept rushing into the field or policemen kept walking across the sight screen. Every moment I got, I made use of, if you know what I mean," he said.

"I know," I said.

"And rain and bad light helped a lot," said Gavaskar.

"Yes," I said. By now the umpires had spotted that an extra man was on the field and I was asked to leave. And, as I was leaving, I told Gavaskar, "I will complete the interview during the lunch break."

"Not the lunch-break," said Gavaskar. "I am afraid I will be occupied writing the sequel to my book."

T. T. TOPICS

THE National Table Tennis Championships are round the corner but as much interest will centre around the elections of the Table Tennis Federation of India on Christmas Day at Allahabad as on the fortunes of Bajaj, Dua or Indu Puri.

In fact, one could almost call the elections a parallel tournament. So many are in the fray and so keen is the competition. There are as many as three nominations for the post of the president, five for the two posts of vice-presidents, six for the post of honorary secretary, and three for the treasurer.

Seldom has the title-holder and the uncrowned king of Indian table tennis, T. D. Ranga Ramanujan, faced such a challenge as he does this year. He is being opposed by Dharam Bir Sinha and A. J. Rana, who was himself a president for a short while.

Ramanujan's name has been proposed by as many as nine associations: Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra

The all-important contest

Pradesh, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Orissa. Impressive though the list is, Ranga still faces a pretty formidable task. The president for the last six years, he is now seeking his last term and, under the guidelines, has to secure a two-thirds majority. Sinha and Rana are under no such handicap.

Sinha's name has been proposed by Assam and Haryana and Rana's by Maharashtra, Bengal and Kerala. The battle lines are thus clear.

Sinha and Rana also figure in the contest for the vice-presidents' posts. So there could be a last-minute withdrawal but I am reliably informed that Rana will definitely be contesting for the president's post. I. Swami, of Maharashtra, Abhay Chhajlani, of Madhya Pradesh, and K. K. Bhatnagar are the three other contestants for the vice-president's post. Swami may withdraw.

Not many may be aware that T. K. Balu is the present secretary of the TTFI. He stepped in to fill the vacancy caused by the exit of V. K. Sibal and has, technically, thus completed a term. The others in the running for the secretaryship are Phani Sharma, former international Dilip Sampat, C. T. Dorairaj, who was formerly a treasurer, Paul Biji and S. B. Mohany.

Phani Sharma, Subash Mashruwala and Paul Biji are the three candidates for the post of treasurer.

One can be sure that there will be wheelings and dealings before the 17th item on the agenda of the 40th annual general meeting is taken up. It has all become part of the game. However, table tennis circles are hoping there will be a secret ballot in the case of a contest. Which, surely, is not asking for too much.

— Top-Spinner



Mohinder Amarnath departs
lbw Lever for zero in India's
first innings



Alan Knott sweeps Venkat to the fence during his dashing
innings of 75

Pics BHAWAN SINGH



Amiss flicks at a
ball from Mohin-
der Amarnath and
high (but h) at
short-leg



Sunil Gavaskar turns a ball neatly to leg in India's first innings



Anshuman Gaekwad looks around to see if his wicket is in tact after missing a ball from Willis

DELHI TEST



Exit Graham Barlow for a duck in his first Test innings bowled Bedi

caught Mohinder

Gavaskar drops a brick

SUNIL GAVASKAR's autobiography, 'Sunny Days' provides interesting reading for it not only covers his short and quite rewarding Test career of six years but also shows him as a youngster desperately keen to become a good cricketer and ever prepared to rough it out to reach the top—always anxious to learn and with a dedication to the game which is his first love.

As Sunil aptly points out in the preface, "Critics will perhaps dismiss my haste in getting into print, as presumptuous, particularly so when I have won my spurs in Test cricket barely five years ago. But I do so with utmost humility and in the hope that what I have seen and observed will make playing conditions easier for players."

The title reflects, as he says, "the many happy days that I have spent playing the game in different parts of the world, and the sunshine it has brought to my life." But Gavaskar, besides describing his Test career and that of his contemporaries with brilliance and punctuating his anecdotes with humour, has many penetrating remarks to offer about umpiring in England and in New Zealand, cricket in India and abroad. And of course there are some revelations over the controversies, particularly on the England tour of 1974.

When he is given out lbw to Snow, to a ball "which clearly pitched outside the leg-stump to which I offered no stroke" in the Oval Test of 1971, Gavaskar lashes out: "But then you don't question an English umpire's decision, do you? They are supposed to be the best in the world."

Gavaskar makes no secret of his feeling of utter disgust at the umpiring in New Zealand in 1976. In the first Test at Auckland "Congdon and Turner, who put on 122 runs, survived mainly because the umpires refused to give them out. Bat-pad catches as well as lbw decisions were smilingly turned down. We looked stupid the way the umpires looked at us."

"When Chandra bowled Wade, he appealed to the umpire who turned around and said, 'He is bowled' Chandra said, 'I know, he is bowled, but is he out?' That goes to show what we thought of the umpiring." His remarks about umpiring in the second and third Tests are also critical. Gavaskar is also equally harsh on the New Zealand press which he accuses of "unabashed partiality."

Gavaskar shows utter contempt



Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi absorbed in a copy of "Sunny Days" after it was released in Delhi last week. At left is SW Managing Editor Khalid Ansari.

for the 'mob' which watches cricket at Kingston, Jamaica. "The way they shrieked and howled everytime Holding bowled was positively horrible. They encouraged him with shouts of 'Kill him Maan', 'Hit him Maan', 'Knock his head off Mike!'" About Port of Spain, where Gavaskar has played all his big innings, he says: "Trinidad I love you."

The West Indies tour of 1976 ended on a sour note not because we lost the series, but because of the patently unsporting manner in which the series was won. I am sure if umpire Gosem is honest, he will admit that a 2-all draw would have been a fair result."

The 1974 tour of England gets a special mention for what happened off the field. Gavaskar feels bitter about some of the things that happened on the tour. One such was the argument between Wadekar and Bedi at an evening dinner early on the tour. "It was a terrible thing to see two of India's senior most cricketers squabbling in an unseemly manner before the younger members of the side."

Gavaskar speaks very harshly about the "London based Indian journalists" and the Indian High Commissioner for the unsavoury incidents at a reception. Gavaskar leaves no doubt that Sudhir Naik was innocent. Since that incident Gavaskar and Naik shared a room on the tour. He adds, "Sudhir confessed to me later that because of the stigma attached to his name,

even though I was made him, continued to look at his own life."

Gavaskar has done well to bring to light the illogical behaviour of the then Cricket Board president who called for his explanation for having deliberately played slow cricket contrary to the interest of the team in the World Cup match against England in 1975 after the manager had already obtained his "explanation" in England. "If my explanation to the manager was not satisfactory, why didn't he say so then, and take action against me? What, however, hurt me even more was the report of the manager who accused me of not performing my duties as vice captain and keeping myself aloof from other members of the team."

Sunil further asks, "How can one call for disciplinary action for performances on the field? If that is so, if a bowler gets sluggish he will have to explain his failure. Or, if a fielder drops a catch, he has to explain this. What a ridiculous state of affairs?"

Shortage of space does not permit narration of so many other typical Gavaskar hit outs against the administrators. The book should keep the reader engrossed throughout. There are 36 illustrations, some of which could have been better produced. — S K

SUNNY DAYS — an autobiography of Sunil Gavaskar. Rupa and Co., Calcutta, Pp 264 Rs 30

Vijay hits the jackpot

THE Four Square Kings National Lawn Tennis Championships held on the Bombay Gymkhana's new grass courts earlier this month was an unmemorable meet, but it will be redeemed from oblivion by the fact of its being India's first prize money Nationals. And it was Vijay Amritraj — returning to competitive singles play after seven weeks — who claimed the Rs. 15,000 top award in the Rs. 80,000 plus men's singles with a comfortable 6-1, 7-5 win over Anand Amritraj.

Vijay Amritraj's successful effort was spread over just four days (and four matches) following his 23rd birthday on December 14. The reason why the men's finals were played on two days instead of on the tournament's concluding day on Sunday was never made clear, but after the elder Amritraj brother had retained the National doubles title with a 7-6, 3-6, 6-1 triumph in a well-contested match against ex-champ Sashi Menon and Jasjit Singh there was very little excitement left in the meet.

Thus, it was that the stands were dramatically empty as Nrupama Mankad won a 6-1, 6-2 decision over Anand's sister. Due to take the Rs. 2,000 women's title prize on Sunday afternoon like Vijay Amritraj, Miss Mankad earned a double — when Miss Lee's shoulder trouble caused her and Kuan Bee to concede the doubles final to 3 days. Kuan and Miss Mankad, but the fact it could well have been possible to complete the women's finals on Saturday, too (with their singles held in between the two men's last round contests). It seems less than fair that the women should have to play all their earlier matches on the shabby outside courts and then be called to the centre court just to help fill up the last day's card.

Delhi's K. C. Anand's winning the veterans' singles yet again must have pleased the tournament sponsors, Godfrey Phillips, who happen to be his employers, but the "seniors" doubles was won by P. S. Seshadri and S. J. Chandiraman.

A word here about the junior events. Since the Junior National Championships is now a separate meet, there is no actual necessity for junior events to be played in the senior Nationals. But, for some reason, they continue to be — and at Bombay, rather peculiarly, these finals were played on grass after the earlier rounds had mostly been held on hard-courts. Surely, any event considered part of the National grass-court championships

should be played right through on a lawn surface.

Though the Nationals were first held at Allahabad some 65 odd years ago, in the recent past the prestigious meet has been rotated between the grass-court venues of Calcutta, New Delhi and Pune. The decision to have the Nationals in Bombay was a bold one, but one is not sure whether it was either wise or worthwhile. The outside lawn courts looked a mixture of

by SUBROTO SIKKAR

grass and red clay, and while there were not too many bad bounces on the three "stadium" courts, they were very patchy and not really fast.

The excuse that the courts might have been better had not there been unexpected rains late last month does not disturb the fact that the Bombay Gymkhana grass courts did not provide an apt setting for the Nationals.

This was Vijay Amritraj's third National singles title. In the final — not a less-than-serious affair as when Anand Amritraj won in Calcutta in 1974-75 — he was clearly his brother's superior. The eldest Amritraj had been in sharper trim through the earlier days, but on Saturday afternoon Vijay's better class accentuated the difference. Even so one felt Vijay Amritraj did not go flat out, and was still a bit wary of stretching on the forehand. In fact, the doubles final

was a more enjoyable affair, with Jasjit meriting special mention.

After he had won a good contest over the 15-year-old All India Hard Court champion, Ramesh Krishnan, the Sikh gave a hard fight to Vijay Amritraj in the quarters. His serve-volley game functioned well enough for Jasjit to almost win. But he does not possess the cool that is Vijay's great asset over crucial points. Still, Jasjit did well at Bombay, as did Shankar Krishnan, 18, in giving the fluent stroking Anand Amritraj a close match, and Ashok Amritraj, 19, showed in the second set of his match against Haroon Rahim that with more experience he can improve even further.

The Pakistani seeded second, disappointed against Anand Amritraj. As he said later, it was one of those days when he could do little right and his opponent little wrong. Anand, in his matches against Rovappa and Rahim played the sort of confident, near-faultless game that he had displayed against Jun Kamiwazumi in that thrilling Davis Cup win at Delhi.

The junior events, as mentioned earlier, were not proper "fits" in the context of the championships. Still, winners like Pune's light-eyed Nandan Bal, Madras's Amrita Ahluwalia and S. Vasudevan (an unseeded yet positive champion in the Boys' Under-14) can all be come, one hopes, stars of future National grass-court meets.



Vijay Amritraj receiving the Four Square Trophy from Mr. De Vitre, Director of Godfrey Phillips. Looking on are R. Batra of the MSLTA and A. C. R. Millar of Bombay Gymkhana.

Experiment with grass—a failure

BOMBAY experimented with grass for the first time for the Nationals which was sponsored by M's Godfrey Phillips, the makers of Four Square Kings. But I feel that the experiment with grass failed though it was no fault of the organisers. Grass courts are very difficult to maintain and are rapidly being replaced by artificial surfaces and hard courts the world over, benefiting the players and providing better tennis for the spectators.

The best match of the earlier rounds was between young Andy Kolhberg of the United States and Premjit Lall. It was a close match right through but Lall went down fighting in an extended third set. Jaideep Mukherjee gave Ilyas Ghose a lesson in tactics and then took a set off Vijay Amritraj. I thought Rajesh Batra who hits the ball hard is one of our bright prospects. The Royappa Minotra match was a thriller and the Madras lad was lucky to win.

Ramesh Krishnan was made to fight all the way by S. P. Misra though the scores of the match do not indicate this. Ramesh really played well and earned each point. But then he ran into Jasjit Singh who produced his best tennis of the tournament in the final set of their extended match, to snuff out Ramesh's chances.

I thought Ramesh tried in the

closing stages of the match—after all it was his second match of the day. Due to the large number of entries the organisers were forced to ask the players to play two singles matches in a day. Besides the heat and this being the major prize money tournament I thought it was a bit too much to ask of the players.

Shankar Krishnan put up a very good performance against Anand Amritraj, who seems to hate losing even a single point. Ashok Amritraj has shown a lot of improve-

by AKHTAR ALI

ment over the last year and his match against Haroon Rahim produced a lot of spectator interest.

The best match of the tournament was the one between Vijay Amritraj and Jasjit Singh. Jasjit won the first set after the tie-breaker with Vijay missing a lot of shots because he lacked match practice. The turning point came when Jasjit served two double faults at a crucial stage of the second set and Vijay broke through. After two tough sets Vijay found his touch in the third set and went into a commanding 4-1 lead. Then Jasjit fought back gallantly to level scores at 4-4. But Vijay's experience came into play

then and he coasted to a 6-4 victory.

The semi-final between Vijay and Sashi Menon was a disappointing one. Vijay kept hitting winner and Sashi had problems getting his first serve in because he was not tossing the ball high enough. But in the eighth game of the second set he hit a couple of winners on Vijay's serve to secure a break through and then held his service to win the second set. The final set was an anticlimax with Sashi not being able to do anything right.

In the other semi-final Anand outplayed Haroon Rahim. What surprised me most was that an experienced player like Rahim failed to alter his tactics. Rahim could well have switched his line of attack to Anand's forehand, as Anand's backhand was working like a dream on that day. Anand never found that same touch and Vijay romped home an easy winner in the final.

While due credit must go to the organisers for doing a good job, I must say that the number of entries must be restricted. It was unfair to restrict the earlier rounds of the doubles matches to the best of 17 games. Let's not forget the day when all matches were played to the best of five sets.



On December 14, his 23rd birthday, Vijay Amritraj conducted a tennis clinic for young hopefuls at the Bombay Gymkhana. The response was encouraging and enthusiastic.

MAIL BAG

No boycott

THIS has reference to Raja Ketkar's letter to you about the Australian Services Team's tea boycott during their match against the Combined Universities Team. I think Ketkar has got the facts all wrong.

The Australian Services Team, than whom no better sportsmen have visited us, were actually grateful that the closure was applied at the tea interval. I myself invited Lindsay Hassett to bring his team over for tea which he did, like any other sporting captain. Later on in a press interview Hassett appreciated the sporting gesture of the Combined Universities skipper. For information of your readers, I may add that it was a two-day game.

—Madhav Mantri (Bombay)

A record?

IN the article 'Statistical highlights of Ranji' I wonder how a renowned statistician like R. B. Mema has forgotten a vital record that has been created by Bishen Bedi.

The unnoticed record is as follows:

1. Bedi becomes the first Indian to hammer 19 runs in one over and with Chaudra taking 2 more runs in that very over they become the only Indian batsmen to score 21 runs in one over.

2. Bedi becomes the first Indian to hit two consecutive sixes and three in one over. Indeed a feat to be proud of.

—A. K. Gutgutia (Karmata)

EITHER Ranji Trophy matches should be played to a finish or a system of 60 overs for each innings should be fixed. There is no question of first innings lead as then the two teams will go all out for a win and the cricket will be interesting. Further, by awarding one extra point for fast scoring at six runs per over the teams will further enliven the proceedings since the extra point will become a major factor to get into the knock out stage.

—K. S. Subramanian
(Coimbatore)

Poor starter

RAILBIRD blames the Starter (SW Dec 5) when Sagara, after a level jumpoff, whipped around and took no part in that race. Subsequently 'Sagara' ran again on December 5 and behaved identically after again jumping off level and going 20 metres or so.

I suppose Railbird would now go on and say that the Starter has gone completely 'trigger happy' and knocked off V Shinde also in the bargain (poor Shinde will be out of the saddle for at least a couple of months).

—V. V. Lad (Bombay)

Polo revival

THERE are signs of a welcome revival of horsemanship in India. Polo and various disciplines connected with horsemanship have come to be very well organised in the country. Top polo competitions are held in all the four major metropolitan cities and of course Jaipur — the home of Indian polo.

The government has of late started recognising experts in this art. Riders from the Army are often sent to undergo advanced Equestrian courses at France, Italy and the UK. Today we have equestrian experts par excellence and to mention a few, the Sodhi brothers — Pickles and Billy, Maj Farnokh Bijli, Maj V. P. Singh and Maj Mehra are names to reckon with.

I wish the government and the IOA would make sure that we compete in the equestrian events at future Olympics.

—Rajendra Prasad (New Delhi)

THIS is to draw the attention of all sports lovers to the total negligence of the Amateur Athletic Federation of India in giving away

the certificates to the ten successful candidates from Bombay who had passed the last AAFI Official's Examination conducted by the Greater Bombay Regional Amateur Athletic Association held at the University Stadium in May 1973.

The results of the Examination were declared after more than a year on 18th October, 1974, in 'The Indian Express'.

After inquiring with the GBRAAA Officials Association's President about the delay in receiving the certificates from the AAFI, one got the reply that since a new Managing Committee of the AAFI had taken over, there may be a further delay.

—M. I. M. Louis (Bombay)

Sportsman of the year

I NOMINATE Bishen Singh Bedi for "Sportsman of the Year".

M. S. Murad (Calcutta)

MY vote goes to Bishen Singh Bedi.

A. R. Narendran
(Kodungallur)

NO one dominated 1976 as Bishen Singh Bedi.

—Miss Geeta Hublikar
(Hubli)

WHO else but Suresh Singh?

—P. S. Bhaduree (Calcutta)

MY man is Anand Amritraj.

—Jyashree K. (Bombay)

THE only sportsman worthy of the honour is Suresh Singh.

—Shelly Purohit (Jodhpur)

I WOULD nominate Prabasu Pandikone for his excellent performances both at Hyderabad and at Delhi.

—G. K. Ramesh (Mandya)

ALL IN THE GAME!



"I don't know about you but I'm getting bored with playing hoop la"



An unprecedented double

Blossom closed in on him and (3) Wild Blossom would have been closer and could also have probably won had he had a clear passage along the rail. The Valoroso Orange Blossom colt, who, unfortunately, is none too sound (he raced in bandages), is clearly a good 'un.

ward (7—Rs 49,790) is the dam of Taking Ways (5—Rs 72,715), Round Up (6—Rs 97,450), Redouble (5—Rs 73,100), Resolute, a winner of several races, and Hurry Home and Round Off, who are also winners. All but Hurry Home have raced throughout in their colours.

TRAINER R. R. Byramji and jockey Jagdish brought off an unprecedented Indian Classic double within a short period of five days when they won the 1,000 Guineas with Mr. and Mrs. N. E. D. Pandole's Reprint and followed it up with a success in the 2,000 with Mr. Ranjit V. Bhat and I. S. Muchandani's Squanderer. Indubitably, Reprint was the more impressive winner, and, apart from wondering what would have been the result of the 2,000 had the 1,000 been run a week earlier as originally scheduled and had Reprint competed, one must revise one's thinking on the Indian Derby.

The rule of three seldom applies in racing but it provides interesting possibilities. Reprint, who is by Prince Pradeep Request, won unextended by five and a half lengths from Imphal in his brilliant time of 1 minute, 39 seconds which is the fastest time for the race and just four fifths of a second shy of H. K. Nizar's course record for 1,600 metres at level weight and Squanderer was under pressure to beat Wild Blossom by one length in 1 minute, 41 seconds at level weight. In the Morvi Cup, Imphal (60) finished one and a half lengths in front of Wild Blossom (39). The inference is obvious.

Of course, there are other considerations. Wild Blossom was racing after a lay off of seven months in the Morvi Cup and Squanderer, who is by Valoroso Milky Way, was making his first appearance after winning the Bangalore Derby five months earlier. It can rightly be argued that just as Wild Blossom was much the better for his first run (he won the Japan Cup before the Guineas) Squanderer will benefit from his outing.

Yet, two conclusions are inescapable. Reprint is the obvious choice for the 2,400 metres Indian Oaks (January 23, 1977). Squanderer is not for the Derby, one week later. Both are considered opinions and the factors which influence them are (1) Reprint was drawing away from the opposition without effort, (2) Squanderer, once he had got clear inside the Distance Post was unable to do so and, in fact, Wild

The Pandoles must be about the most successful small owner-breeders over a period of time. Repay (Pay Up Silver Loan) is the foundation on which they have built. She won seven races and Rs 42,500 in stakes and Request (by Decorum) and Reward (by Decorum) were bred from her. Request (7 races, including 1961 1,000, and stakes of Rs 46,029) is the dam of Garuda (8—Rs 1,32,895), Remarque (4—Rs 75,622) and Star Above, a winner, and Reprint Re



Squanderer with Jagdish astride

The man in the street's view of racing is that it is totally corrupt and that most, if not all, of the races are manipulated. This is unfortunate as it is not true. It is doubly unfortunate that those who are in charge of the racing desk in the government of Maharashtra seem to suffer from the same affliction. How else can one explain their latest directive to the RWITC that not more than two owners should be included in the elected nine on the Committee and the five who constitute the body of Stewards and that these two should not sit in judgment when reports from the Stipendiary Stewards on malpractices are considered?

The absurdity of this directive is brought out by the fact that eight of the nine outgoing Committee members and four of the five Stewards (the Stewards are selected from amongst the Committee) are owners. The composition of the new Committee, which would have been elected before this appears in print, will be the same as 10 of the 11 contesting are owners!

One wonders how conversant with the sport are the gentlemen who are nominated to the Committee and the Stewards by the government and how they function!

Keep your eye on Mandasaur, Resolute, Fair Rock, Crenona, Real Indian and Althea whenever they race and have your money on them. They will be profitable investments.



Squanderer winning the 2,000 Guineas at Mahaluxmi last Sunday



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